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No. 1104.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1042.)



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No. 1104.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLAND

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE
YEAR 1920.*

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Owing to their geographical position—at the extreme south-east end of the Bahamas Archipelago, and to the absence of direct communication with the Mother Country, less is known about this Dependency than most other West Indian Colonies; with the absence of any literature dealing with its early history except such as may be gleaned from official papers and records renders it difficult for anyone in quest of information concerning these interesting, but little known, islands to ascertain exactly from what source to obtain it.

As nothing could supersede the value of the reports of F. H. Watkins, I.S.O. (Commissioner of the Dependency during the years 1906–14), concerning the Salt and Sisal Industries of these islands (in which is included everything that is reliable concerning the early history of the Dependency), it is not considered necessary to repeat what has been so lucidly described by this gentleman; but, on the other hand, it is proposed to quote freely from the information supplied by Mr. Watkins whenever it is necessary to do so.

SITUATION AND AREA.

The Dependency of the Turks and Caicos Islands, according to Mr. Watkins, belongs geographically (and ecclesiastically) to the Bahamas; officially to Jamaica; and socially to Bermuda. They lie between 21° and 22° N. latitude, and 71° 50' to 72° 50' W. longitude, and are therefore just on the edge of the Tropics. They really consist of two distinct groups, the Turks Islands proper and the Caicos Islands. The two groups are separated by a channel, 21 miles in width—the Turks Islands passage, or *Le débouquement des Isles Turques*, of the French cartographers. The entire area is stated officially to be 166 square miles, but as no survey of the group has ever been made, these figures are probably below the mark. The islands

* Sketch Maps will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 108 [Cd. 7622–37].

† Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous Nos. 43 and 56.

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distant about 720 miles from Bermuda on the north, about 450 miles from Jamaica on the south-west, and about the same distance from Nassau, Bahamas, on the south-east.

As the Dependency of the Turks and Caicos Islands really consists of two distinct groups, it will be convenient to review the character of each group separately. The Turks Islands group proper consists of two inhabited cays, Grand Turk and Salt Cay, four uninhabited cays, and a large number of rocks. A three-pointed bank surrounds the group and offers serious dangers to navigation. This bank has been the scene of frequent shipwrecks for many years. The islands derive their name from the Turks Head Cactus (*Melocactus communis*), found abundantly on the rocky shores, the scarlet head of which is supposed to represent a Turkish fez.

On the western side of the Turks Island passage lie the Caicos Islands. These surround the Caicos Bank, a triangular expanse of shallow white water, 58 miles long on its northern side, and 56 miles long on its eastern and western sides respectively. The northern and eastern sides of the bank are bounded by a chain of islands, separated from each other by narrow channels, in most cases only a few feet deep, while the western edge is fringed by a series of reefs and rocks. There can be no doubt that the bank will, in course of time, become a large island, since its "interior is already represented by a low salty plain only a few feet below sea-level." (De Booy).

The principal islands of the Caicos group are South Caicos, East Caicos, Middle Caicos, North Caicos, Providenciales Island, and West Caicos. The group of islands forming the Dependency extends for a distance 75 miles from east to west, and 50 miles from north to south, and constitutes part of the long chain of low islands and banks, extending from off the Florida coast to the Navidad bank, lying north of the east end of Haiti. The banks and islands forming this archipelago rest on a vast submarine platform, those portions of it above sea-level representing the last that have risen above the surface. Beyond the Turks and Caicos Islands to the south-east lie three of these banks. Two of them, Mouchoir (the handkerchief) and Silver Bank, are in some places awash, while the third, the Navidad Bank, is entirely submerged. Although accurate data is not available to prove that these banks are being gradually uplifted, the fact that the Caicos Islands bank, and other banks in the Bahamas, are constantly building up, "warrants the conjecture that the same tidal and geological conditions govern them all, and that in course of time three additional island groups will come into being." (De Booy, *Geographical Review*, Vol. No. 1).

HISTORICAL.

The Turks and Caicos Islands, together with the Bahamas, were probably discovered by Columbus in the year 1492.

The archaeological researches of De Booy demonstrate that the Turks Islands proper—that is, Grand Turk and Salt Cay, with their adjacent islets—were uninhabited, probably on account of the sterility of the soil, the scanty rainfall, and other difficulties in the way of agriculture which obtain in the easternmost group of islands.

The Turks and Caicos Islands would appear to owe their existence as a British Colony entirely to the Salt Ponds that are found at Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and South Caicos, as from the time of their discovery up to the year 1678 they remained und claimed and uncolonised by any nation. In that year a party of Bermudians, attracted by the advantages to be derived by establishing a salt industry to supply the demands of the fisheries in the New England States, came to the Turks Islands, and inaugurated the first systematic attempt at salt raking. From that date onwards parties of Bermudians used to resort annually to Turks Islands to rake salt. "They returned to Bermuda about November, where they remained until February or March, because salt could not be raked at that time of the year; and other industries were out of the question on islands composed of little more than burning sands and barren rocks. The salt industry, in the absence of the present flourishing vegetable export trade of Bermuda with the United States, afforded the Bermudians with little capital the staple so necessary for maintaining their carrying trade, and allowed sufficient time in each year for the cultivation of vegetables (at Bermuda) for their own consumption." (Watkins).

The conditions of life under which the industry was pursued, and the circumstances of their existence, are graphically portrayed in the Annual Register of 1764, which, in alluding to the recent invasion of Grand Turk by the French, states, "These islands are many in number, most of them being low, sandy, and barren, with very little, if any, fresh water, without any vegetation except lizards, iguanas, and land-crabs, but the coast abounds with fish and turtle and the beach is covered with sea-fowl. . . ."

"The business of salt raking is chiefly carried on by Bermudians who come here in the month of March and continue during the dry season, leading a life that the idea of liberty only can render preferable to slavery itself. They live in little huts . . . they have a knife in their pockets and a kettle in their kitchens; their wardrobe consists of nothing but a straw hat, a check shirt, and a pair of oznaburg trousers; their food is salt pork, and now than then a iguana (a sort of large lizard), when they have time to catch them, and very often they are without bread; yet in this way of life they enjoy health, nor do they ever differ about property or religion, for they have neither priest, lawyer, or physician among them. The New Englanders come here with sloops and schooners in great numbers to load salt for their fisheries; they buy it from 4d. to 6d. sterling the bushel, and they pay the poor Bermudians a small part in money, the

rest in stinking rum, rotten pork, and musty biscuits, now and then throwing them a cask of sour water into the bargain."

Those wishing to follow in detail the varying fortunes of the salt industry in these islands are referred to the report by Mr. Watkins already mentioned.

It need only be stated here that, while the Turks Islands proper (Grand Turk and Salt Cay) were from the first used solely for the exploitation of salt, the Caicos Islands owed their settlement to the American War of Independence and to the agricultural establishment of loyalist refugees to whom lands were granted after the loss of their holdings in Georgia and the other Southern States. These refugees, together with their slaves, devoted their energies almost exclusively to the raising of cotton. The loyalist settlers have long since disappeared, but the remains of their substantial stone houses and the roads which they traced out remain to this day. Successive hurricanes, together with the havoc wrought among the cotton plants by destructive insects, put an end to the prosperity of the planters, and caused all systematic agriculture to be abolished during the early part of the nineteenth century.

Shortly after this, in the year 1838, we learn that the salt ponds at Cockburn Harbour (South Caicos) were brought under cultivation. These ponds, under careful management, have now developed to such an extent as completely to overshadow all other salt-producing settlements of the Dependency.

From the year 1799 to the year 1848 the Turks and Caicos Islands were incorporated with the Bahamas Government.

In 1848, at the earnest request of the inhabitants, they were separated from the Bahamas and placed under the supervision of the Government of Jamaica, where they still remain. The first President (since changed to that of Commissioner) of the Dependency under the new arrangement was Captain Forth, and under his capable administration, we are told by Mr. Watkins, vigorous efforts were made to develop and extend the salt industry of the Caicos Islands.

CONSTITUTION.

The Legislature consists of a Legislative Board, comprising the Commissioner as President, two official members, and three unofficial members appointed by the Governor of Jamaica. Taxation and expenditure and all local matters are regulated by this Board. Laws passed by the Legislative Council of Jamaica, which are in express terms made applicable to the Turks Islands, take effect there. The subjects of currency, bills of exchange, patents, and the custody of prisoners and lunatics have been so dealt with.

CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY.

The climate is equable and healthy and rarely unpleasantly hot, owing to the strong and never-failing sea breezes which

sweep across the islands. The average temperatures taken from the records of five years, disclose a maximum of 90° and a minimum of 61.5° .

The maximum temperature recorded during the year under review was 85.4° and the minimum 61.5° .

July to October are the hottest months of the year and of nearly equal temperature.

January, February, and March are the coldest months and of nearly equal temperature.

As the Turks and Caicos Islands lie within the Tropics, atmospheric pressure acts upon the same principle as is observed in other places similarly situated ; that is to say, there is a regular rise and fall of about one-tenth of an inch every six hours, except in case of a hurricane, when a considerably increased falling of the mercury results.

Generally, however, it may be said that the mean height of the barometer, from daily readings taken from the Grand Turk Weather Bureau Station—11 ft. above sea-level—is almost exactly 30 inches. As a general rule, the barometer rises for northerly and falls for southerly winds.

Lying within the Tropics, the Turks and Caicos Islands are within the influence of the trade winds, but in the winter months, *i.e.*, from about the end of November to the end of March, the trade wind is frequently interrupted by north-east and north winds. Indeed, in December and January this change may be expected almost weekly.

Previous to the change, the wind will draw round to the south and south-east. About 24 hours after, or less, dark masses of cloud will be seen rising from the westward, and in a short time the wind will rush suddenly from that quarter with the force of a stiff breeze. It soon veers round to the north-east and north, with clear weather, and remains within these points sometimes two or three days. It will then veer gradually to the north-east and wear itself out east, in the course of a few days. (*West Indian Pilot*, Vol. II.)

The barometer is scarcely any guide at such times, but so regular and so certain is the action of the wind, that vessels can seek shelter with easy confidence in the change that will follow.

The rainfall for the year 1920 is recorded as being 26.04 inches. The Turks and Caicos Islands share in the delightful winter climate of the Bahama Islands and in the attractiveness of the sea water round their shores. Few people who visit these islands but are charmed by the wonderful sea bathing and express the desire to return, a wish, however, which will never materialize until hotels or hostelries of some kind, with an adequate and suitable food supply, are provided for their accommodation.

It goes without saying in such low-lying coral islands, with a scanty rainfall, constantly swept by sea breezes, and where no freshwater swamps are found, that malaria, that is, as it is known in other islands of the West Indies, does not exist. The few cases

which occur from time to time, chiefly in the island of North Caicos, and the origin of which can usually be traced to the neighbouring republic of Haiti, are of the mildest description.

This is conclusively proved by the small death-rate in these islands from diseases of this character.

There are no freshwater ponds in these islands, and the inhabitants in the Settlements at Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and Cockburn Harbour depend entirely on rainwater tanks with which most houses are provided. Scattered throughout the Caicos Islands are wells of more or less brackish water, in most cases potable to those accustomed for generations to water of this character.

GRAND TURK.

Grand Turk, formerly known as Grand Cay, is situated on the eastern boundary edge of the Turks Island passage. In shape it is said to resemble the blade of a butter knife, and it contains an area of 10 square miles, with a population of 1,581 souls, of whom about three-fourths are of African descent. Grand Turk is the seat of government, and it is here that the Commissioner of the Dependency resides. The only settlement at Grand Turk is Cockburn Town, situated on the western side of the island, and it contains the entire population.

There is no harbour, and vessels are obliged to lie in an open roadstead at some distance from the shore. In stormy weather, with the wind from the north-west, such an exposed anchorage presents grave danger to shipping, and during a "norther" the loading and unloading of cargo become impossible. At such times vessels engaged in work of this character have no alternative but to seek safety in the open sea. The greatest elevation at Grand Turk is about 70 feet above sea-level, and the scanty vegetation is typical of the flora of the adjacent Bahama Islands. Here and there one finds stunted specimens of such hardy trees as corkwood (*Thespesia populuca*), tamarind, cordia (*Cordea sebestena*), and casuarinas; but, for the most part, the island is covered with a low scrubby vegetation, in which plants of the cactus and euphorbia families largely predominate.

At Grand Turk there is a lighthouse, erected on a bluff at the north point of the island. It exhibits, at an elevation of 108 feet above sea-level, a white flash-light every half-minute. This light can be seen for a distance of 15 miles in clear weather.

The "Victoria Jubilee Library and Free Reading Room" ministers adequately to the literary tastes of the reading public, and, as its name implies, is an institution commemorative of the year 1887, the Jubilee year of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

Grand Turk is fairly well supplied with churches, for such a small population, there being two Anglican, one Wesleyan, and one Baptist places of worship. Baptists are in the majority among the lower classes, but the attendance at the churches of all the denominations is exceedingly poor.

At Grand Turk is located, beside the usual public offices, the Council Chamber, the Court House, the Hospital, and the Gaol.

A telephone system, inaugurated in 1915, gives connection between the various stores and residences of the island, and a wireless telephone installation, now in course of erection, will shortly connect the seat of government with the district Treasuries at Salt Cay and South Caicos, eight and twenty-one miles away respectively.

The "Manning Hospital," affording accommodation for six patients in the public wards and two in the private wards, was opened in October, 1918. This institution possesses a well-equipped operating theatre, and is up to date in other respects. The hospital, which ministered to the wants of no less than 65 patients in the year 1919, is fulfilling a most useful purpose in relieving the needs of suffering humanity.

The only industry at Grand Turk is the production and manufacture of salt, and although there are several localities on the island where cotton could successfully be grown no attempt at systematic cultivation has ever been attempted. Owing to a scarcity of labour, it is unlikely that agriculture of any kind will ever make much headway in Grand Turk.

The salt of the Turks Islands is of exceptional purity, and is therefore greatly in demand in the United States and Canada for meat-packing and fish-curing purposes. On account of its good name, a considerable quantity of the salt imported from other places is sold in the northern markets under the name of Turks Island salt.

The various stages in the process of salt manufacture have been so very carefully and fully described by Mr. Watkins in his report already referred to that it is unnecessary in a general report of this nature to do more than give a broad outline of the industry.

The salt ponds, or salinas, vary in size, and are anywhere from five to 25 acres in extent, but the "making pans"—that is, the pans where final evaporation takes place—are usually from one-half to one acre in size.

The method of making salt from sea-water by solar evaporation (the method pursued in the Turks Island) is simple in the extreme, and may be thus briefly described: sea-water, having a density of 10, is let in through sluices or canals into the common or storage reservoirs, situated at or slightly below sea-level. Here it remains until it reaches 30 by the salinometer. From the common reservoir it is run off into what may be described as the Number 1 pond, a shallow pan, which may be anywhere from five to 15 acres in extent. There it remains until the salinometer indicates 60. In the main pond a great many impurities of the sea-water, such as vegetable matter, magnesia, and lime, are precipitated, and the water now assumes a saffron hue. At this stage the "pickle," as it is now called, has been reduced in quantity by evaporation to about one-half of the original volume of sea-water.

From the main pond the "pickle" is next passed into pond Number 2, or "strong pond." Here it remains for about 20 days, until, by further evaporation, its strength has been reduced to 90. The water is now pink in colour, and only about one-sixth of the original volume of sea-water. Being by this time freed of the lime it contained, the pure brine is next passed into the "making pans," where, after about 10 to 15 days' further evaporation, the salt commences to granulate on the sides and bottoms of the pans. After two weeks more, according to the weather, the salt is ready to be gathered, or raked, as it is called. Wooden rakes are used for this purpose, and by means of these and scuffle hoes, the salt is raked up into small heaps on the level floor of the "making pans," from whence it is carted to the "depositing ground." These are usually situated in close proximity to the shipping place, and here the salt is piled up in huge mounds awaiting shipment.

The average quantity of salt raked annually from an acre of pans varies from 3,000 to 8,000 bushels. At Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour, where the pans are carefully worked, an average of 5,000 bushels per acre is the usual crop under favourable weather conditions, but at Grand Turk, where through careless management the industry is steadily declining, it is doubtful if even an average of 2,000 bushels per acre can be counted on.

The annual output of salt from the entire Dependency varies between $1\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels, in poor seasons, to $2\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels in good years.

SALT CAY.

Salt Cay, situated about eight miles to the south-west of Grand Turk, is the only other inhabited island of the Turks Island group. In area it is about four square miles, with a population of about 300 souls. The output of salt from this island averages 450,000 bushels annually.

SOUTH CAICOS.

This island is situated at the extreme south-east end of the Caicos Islands, and it is the only island of the group on which the salt industry is conducted. There are about 400 acres of salt ponds (including reservoirs), and the annual output varies between 700,000 and 800,000 bushels.

EAST CAICOS.

This island, up to the year 1919, was the centre of the sisal industry of the Dependency. In this year the East Caicos Company, who had conducted the cultivation of sisal on a large scale since 1891, were compelled for various reasons to shut down their factory and abandon the plantation. It would seem that the rocky and barren soil of this island, together with the

cost of labour, proved an effective bar to the prosecution of the sisal industry on a remunerative scale. Thus an enterprise, which afforded employment to upwards of 200 hands, has been scrapped.

MIDDLE CAICOS.

Separated by a narrow passage from East Caicos lies Middle Caicos, or, as it is sometimes called, Grand Caicos. This island the largest of the Caicos group, is 25 miles long, with an extreme breadth of 12 miles. On it are situated the villages of Lorimers, Bombarra, and Conch Bar, with an aggregate population of 500 souls.

At or near Lorimers is the Haulover Estate, where there has been in operation since 1918 the very promising cotton cultivation of the Caicos Development Company of New York. This Company, composed mainly of Americans, has upwards of 500 acres under cultivation, and it would seem that only careful handling is necessary to ensure successful results. At Conch Bar there is situated the cotton plantations of Mrs. Robert O'Reilly (200 acres in extent), while round the settlements above mentioned there is quite a large area of this product in the hands of peasant cultivators.

NORTH CAICOS.

To the north-west of Middle Caicos lies North Caicos, an island about 12 miles east and west, and eight miles north by south. In comparison with the other islands of the Caicos group, North Caicos is fertile, and the remains of old sugar factories indicate that it evidently in the past was divided into large plantations.

“ The inhabitants, 366 in number, probably owing to having more to do with the soil, preserve more than elsewhere in the group the traditions of ‘ Old Massa ’ and the Southern States traditions. The principal settlements are Kew and Bottle Creek ; the former near the middle of the island, three miles from ‘ Belfield Landing,’ on the southern shore, and the latter on the eastern side, on a broad and picturesque creek of that name. Near to Kew is ‘ Wades Green,’ the former residence of the Magistrate of the Caicos Islands. In the neighbourhood of Kew is a considerable area of good soil, and the remains of the old sugar works are still to be seen.” (Watkins.) Bottle Creek, a settlement of about 300 inhabitants, is approached from the north side in light-draught boats, by a narrow channel connecting the creek with the open sea. In the vicinity of this settlement are to be seen the ruins of the old estate mansions belonging to the Bellevue, Windsor, and Richmond estates. These plantations all date their origin from the time of the War of American Independence, and were granted by the British Government of that day to loyalist refugees from Georgia and other Southern States.

PARROT CAY, DELLIS CAY, AND OTHERS.

Lying to the west of Middle Caicos are several small cays, the most deserving of mention being Parrot Cay and Dellis Cay. At Parrot Cay, in the hands of the " Parrot Cay Cotton Company " (another American concern), there are under cultivation upwards of 250 acres of cotton ; while at Dellis Cay is situated the sponge-buying enterprise of Mr. George Dellis, a gentleman of Greek extraction.

PROVIDENCIALES OR BLUE HILLS.

Continuing the chain of islands, which in the form of a semi-circle encloses the eastern and western sides of the Caicos bank, and to the westward of the islands just mentioned, is the island of Providenciales or Blue Hills, one of the largest of the Caicos group. This island is 17 miles long by 12 miles in width, and contains a population of about 900 inhabitants.

The settlements are Blue Hills about the middle of the north shore, Five Cays to the south-east, and The Bight on the northern shore, about three miles to the east end of Blue Hills.

On the southern side of Providenciales is Chalk Sound, an immense shallow-water creek, extending over an area of about nine to ten square miles. Here is situated the promising sponge-rearing and lobster-canning enterprises of Mr. George Silly (deceased). The sudden death of Mr. Silly in 1917 has caused a temporary closing down of the lobster-canning factory, but the artificial rearing of sponges is still prosecuted by Mr. C. W. Kursteiner, Mr. Silly's partner. At the time of writing there are upwards of half a million sponges under cultivation.

WEST CAICOS.

West Caicos, also known as Belle Isle, is situated about 12 miles to the south-west of Providenciales. In area it is about eight miles from north to south, with an average breadth of two miles. In the middle of the island is Lake Catherine, a large salt-water expanse nearly two miles long.

This island, as the name " Belle Isle " implies, is probably the most attractive of the Caicos group, and this fact probably accounts for the immense and wasteful expenditure of capital which has taken place on it during the past 60 years.

The West Caicos Company, the last of the many companies which from time to time have buried fortunes on this little island, passed out of existence in 1916. For some years prior to this, however, the island had been practically abandoned. Fine buildings, erected at great cost, had been demolished and spoliated by passing sloops ; and to-day there is the pitiable spectacle of roofless buildings and valuable machinery, representing thousands of pounds, gone to ruin amid the scrub—striking testimony to incompetent management.

The island of West Caicos is free from malaria, contains probably the finest salinas in the Dependency, and possesses the best shipping facilities of any island in the group. On the western side of West Caicos vessels can load and discharge in deep water within a cable's length of the shore. There seems every reason to anticipate that, if ever this island falls into capable hands, the resources thereof can be most successfully developed.

FINANCIAL—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the year ended 31st December, 1920, was £11,294, as compared with £11,164 in the year 1919, and exceeded the estimates by £2,744. The expenditure was £10,780, as compared with £9,263 in the year 1919, and there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure, after providing for the cost of three wireless telephone installations, of £514.

The surplus of assets on the 31st December was £11,750, which is again the largest on record in the annals of the Dependency.

There is no public debt.

There is no direct taxation.

The current coins are British gold and silver. United States gold and silver are accepted at a discount of 1½ per cent. on the face value.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The imports during the year ended 31st December, 1920, were valued at £59,753, as compared with £38,343 in 1919.

The exports were valued at £46,865, as against £33,554 in 1919.

Classified under their respective headings, a comparative statement of the exports for the year 1919 and 1920 reads as follows :—

<i>Articles.</i>	1919	1920.
	£	£
Salt (coarse)	10,827	21,187
„ (fishery)	13,290	17,148
Sisal	1,293	3
Sponges	1,015	2,027
Conchs	3,006	2,385
Conch Shells	1,256	1,077
Cotton and Cotton Seed	580	382
Tortoise Shell	1,079	263
Dried Fish	47	18
Dye Woods	89	—
Miscellaneous	1,063	2,377
Totals	£33,544	£46,865

The direction of trade as regards imports and exports, during the years 1919 and 1920, may be thus summarized :—

<i>Countries.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
		£	£
United Kingdom ..	1919	2,140	580
British Colonies ..	„	8,748	14,802
Foreign Countries ..	„	27,455	18,172
Totals.. ..		<u>£38,343</u>	<u>£33,554</u>

<i>Countries.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
		£	£
United Kingdom ..	1920	3,672	382
British Colonies ..	„	6,961	20,994
Foreign Countries ..	„	49,115	25,489
Totals.. ..		<u>£59,748</u>	<u>£46,865</u>

SALT.

Exports nearly doubled those of last year, 1919, and amounted to 1,905,042 bushels.

The year closed with a firm demand for the staple product of the Dependency at remunerative prices.

In consequence of heavy shipments during the last quarter of the year, the stock of salt carried over on the deposits on the 31st December scarcely amounted to one million bushels, a lower figure than has obtained for some time.

Weather conditions during 1920 were again ideal for the production and manufacture of salt.

SPONGES.

Exports to the value of £2,383, as against £1,015 in 1919, indicate that the industry is making steady progress. At present there are three sponging establishments in the Caicos Islands. At Cockburn Harbour, Dellis Cay, and Five Cays sponges are purchased, cured, sorted, baled, and shipped. The gathering of the sponges from the Caicos banks is carried on by more than fifty local sloops, belonging mostly to Blue Hills, each of which employs three to nine men, according to the number of boats on board. The best months for sponging are April, May, September, November, and December. After being cured, the sponges, carefully graded, are pressed in bales, averaging 50 lb. in weight, and exported. They are bought at the three stations in two strands of 15 pieces each, the total weight being 1½ to 2 lb. Although inferior to those imported from the Mediterranean, these sponges find ready sale, at remunerative prices, in the United States.

<i>Grade.</i>	<i>Local Prices</i>		<i>Prices in</i>	
	<i>per</i>		<i>New York per</i>	
	<i>double strand.</i>		<i>double strand.</i>	
	<i>Cents.</i>		<i>Cents.</i>	
Sheep's Wool	50	125	70	250
Reef (local)	20	25	75	120
Yellow and Hard Head ..	11	15	30	40
Velvet	10	12	40	
Grass	10	12	20	40

CONCHS.

A slight falling-off is noticeable under this head, the value of conchs shipped in 1920 being £622 less than the figures given for the year 1919. Conchs are a favourite article of diet among all classes in the Dependency, and properly dressed and cooked can be made exceedingly palatable. When dried they are exported in large quantities to Haiti, where they find a ready sale. Occasionally those engaged in the trade find inside the conch shells pink pearls, for which high prices are obtained.

COTTON.

Exports for the year amounted to 13 bales of cotton, and bags of seed, value £382. A slight falling-off of two bales below the exports for the year 1919, in no way, however, indicates a decline of the industry, but is due entirely to lack of shipping facilities to the United Kingdom.

On the contrary, it is satisfactory to recall that the cotton industry continues to make steady and satisfactory progress. Exclusive of hundreds of peasant holdings, there were in the hands of three American capitalists upwards of 1,000 acres under cultivation on the 31st December. On the other hand, it is to be regretted that the produce of these large growers must inevitably find its way into the markets of the United States, because, until better arrangements can be made for getting into connection with the Mother Country, it seems hopeless to expect that trade within the Empire can ever be successfully developed in this Dependency. The only channel of communication at present with the United Kingdom is through New York, and everything sent that way is subject to freight rates that are extortionate and prohibitive.

SISAL

An export of only £3, as against £1,293, indicates that this industry has ceased to exist. It is difficult to understand why the cultivation of sisal should have been abandoned after so much money has been expended on it. Various reasons are given, but it is to be feared that at the bottom lies the question of transport, and that until some means can be found to connect this

Dependency with the markets of the United Kingdom other than through New York neither sisal nor any other industry can be successfully developed. This is all the more to be regretted, because for both cotton and sisal, especially the former industry, there is an abundance of suitable soil now lying idle.

SEA SHELLS.

The export of conch shells during 1920 shows a falling-off of £179 in value, as compared with the year 1919.

SHIPPING.

The number of vessels entered at the various ports of the Dependency during the year was 399, with a tonnage of 279,067, as compared with 336 vessels and a tonnage of 183,195 during the year 1919.

VITAL STATISTICS.

No serious epidemic or outbreak of sickness of any kind occurred during the year. The number of births and deaths were 219 and 116, representing 39 and 21 per thousand, respectively, of the population. Twenty-five marriages are recorded.

EDUCATION.

The sum of £700 is placed annually at the disposal of the Board of Education for the upkeep of primary schools throughout the Dependency. At the eight schools thus maintained by the Government the average number of pupils on the registers during the year under review was 889. It is, indeed, gratifying to be able to state that a school of secondary education under Government auspices has at last been inaugurated. In April of the year under review a commencement was made with this school under the care of the Reverend Stanley Cannon, "Wesleyan minister," as headmaster. At the close of the year there were 36 pupils in attendance.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

Mails to and from the United Kingdom and other parts of the world are transmitted and received on an average four times a month by steamers of the Clyde and Columbus lines, via New York.

The Dependency still suffers from the great disadvantage of being able to receive parcels from the United States and Great Britain only, and to send parcels to the United States only, except by a sailing vessel to Jamaica three or four times a year.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the Post Office for the year 1920 was £918, and expenditure for the same period, £177.

The telephone service, inaugurated in 1915 (approximately 28 miles of lines), continues to give useful and satisfactory service. The demand for new installations now exceeds the capacity of the present switchboard, and arrangements are being made to greatly extend the existing system.

A complete outfit of wireless telephone installations for three stations was received during the year, and are now being erected.

The system can be used either for telephoning or telegraphing, having a sending range of 50 and 150 miles respectively.

The cable of the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, between Halifax, Bermuda, and Jamaica, touches at Grand Turk, and connects the Dependency with other telegraphic systems of the world. The Company supplies a News Bulletin daily, in respect of which a yearly subsidy of £120 is paid.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The readings and statistics taken at the U.S. Weather Bureau Station at Grand Turk, in latitude 21° 22' N. and longitude 71° 97' W., at a height of 11·3 feet above sea-level, were as follows :—

Rainfall	26·04 inches
The highest temperature recorded for the year	86·5°
Lowest temperature recorded for the year	61·5°

GENERAL.

No events of importance marked the year under review. The cost of living still continues high, and is keenly felt by the poorer classes, who are able to purchase only the barest necessities of life.

G. WHITFIELD SMITH,

Commissioner.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent Reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1066	Gold Coast	1919
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Wei-hai-wei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey,
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

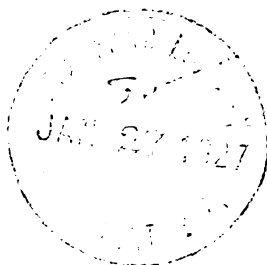
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1105.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1082.)



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1920.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. Tables of Revenue and Expenditure are not shewn, it being impossible to assess even approximate figures for either.

2. There is no direct taxation, the people contributing indirectly by means of import duties, railway charges, etc. As these are collected in the Colony in bulk, it would be difficult, as well as serving no good purpose, to separate them between the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories, which for the estimation of the financial position must be taken together.

3. It is necessary to note however—as has been done so often by my predecessors—that the Colony and Ashanti depend very largely on this Protectorate for labour and for soldiers, as well as for much of their meat supply.

4. I should like to quote here from the speech of Sir Hugh Clifford in 1919 to the Legislative Council :—

“The great service, however, which the Northern Territories render to the rest of the Gold Coast lies in the supply of man-power which it affords. Large and increasing numbers of young men from this Dependency annually visit the Colony and Ashanti in search of work. There is no recruiting machinery in operation, the immigration being voluntary ; but the supply of able-bodied men which the Dependency has provided of recent years for work in the Gold Mines and for the transport of cocoa has represented an appreciable percentage of the total available labour for the Colony and Ashanti alike.

“The Northern Territories have rendered an even more important service to the Gold Coast by providing, by voluntary enlistment, ninety *per centum* of the rank and file of the Regiment which bears this Colony's name. The natives of this Dependency represent the best fighting material which the Gold Coast produces, and the splendid record of loyalty, heroism and courage which the Gold Coast Regiment has established for itself in Togoland, in the Kameruns, and in German and Portuguese East Africa, shows how fine is the quality of that material.”

5. The small items of revenue, which are collectable in the Protectorate all shew increases over the previous year. These items are Firearm and Hunting licences, Ferry tolls, Court Fees and Fines, Market fees, and Miscellaneous, the total amounting to £2,770, as against £2,249 in 1919.

6. Local expenditure was greater than in 1919. This was principally due to Personal Emoluments, which show a large increase owing to the improvement of all salaries.

7. A considerable sum of money was spent on completing the road from Yeji, through Tamale, to Gambaga.

8. Coinage. It is a relief to be able to report that this troublesome question seems to have been set at rest, I hope finally, by the introduction of a nickel bronze coinage. The natives have accepted it whole-heartedly. Indeed it would seem better for this country than the old silver coinage, as it does not lend itself to the manufacture of ornaments, and therefore remains in circulation.

9. The holed nickel coinage of 1d, $\frac{1}{2}$ d and $\frac{1}{10}$ d. is now available for distribution in considerable quantities. The $\frac{1}{10}$ d. especially is most popular up North where it has taken the place of cowries in the markets. It is being sent up as fast as its bulk will allow.

10. Paper Currency is unsuitable for the conditions prevailing here and cannot be popular for many years. This is not because it is not understood, but rather from the fact it perishes rapidly from climatic conditions, and the ravages of ants, and that it is hard to get change for the higher denominations.

II.—TRADE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

11. Trade statistics consisting of the number of animals and loads passing through are kept at the Trade Centres, but it would be misleading to place reliance on the figures, as many caravans travel at night and so are not counted at all—while others are conceivably counted twice.

12. The figures that are supplied however enable the condition of any particular industry to be gauged with reasonable accuracy.

13. Imports from the Colony consist principally of :—

English Cloths,
English Beads,
Salt (from Addah),
Dried Fish (from the Coast Towns),
Kola (mostly in transit from Ashanti to the North).

Exports consist of :—

Cattle,
Sheep (in transit from French Country to the Colony),
Horses,
Kola (in transit North),
Shea butter,
Hides,
Dawa Dawa (made from Locust bean),
Native Cloths.

14. Trade was bad during the year though it recovered somewhat during the later months.

This was due to various obvious causes :—

- i. The paucity of English goods and their exorbitant price.
- ii. Shortage of cash, and general stagnation.
- iii. Prevalence of rinderpest and consequent stoppage of the export of cattle from French Country.
- iv. The prevalence of cerebro-spinal meningitis, which rendered it necessary to close all trade routes for some time.

15. English cloths are still very dear and of poor quality, but a small improvement of some 4,000 loads occurred, chiefly at the end of the year. The same remarks apply to beads.

16. Salt. This trade, which is in the hands of the people of Addah, was normal.

17. Dried fish from the Coast showed an increase. Doubtless it replaced the tinned herrings which before the war were a popular and cheap article of food.

18. Kola is exported from Ashanti in immense quantities—generally on donkeys. This year hardly any donkeys came down—having been, I am told, commandeered by the French for military purposes.

19. 15,000 fewer donkey loads but 19,000 more head loads passed through the Southern Province alone.

20. The amount of money engaged in this trade is very great. It is entirely in the hands of the Mohammedans who distribute the nuts all over Mohammedan Africa.

21. The total amount of loads of the commodity going North can be estimated at 100,000 at least. The trade appears to be increasing.

22. Horses. Very few came down. They were of mediocre quality, but fetched high prices, £15 to £20.

23. Cattle. This trade showed a serious falling off, due to many causes :—

- i. The great proportion of cattle comes from French territory. Rinderpest was very bad there, and in consequence, export of animals was either stopped or much restricted.
- ii. The demand in French country is greater owing to the establishment of a canning factory at Bammako.
- iii. Closing of the routes owing to cerebro-spinal meningitis and the consequent disorganization of the trade.

The number registered as entering the country show 29,423 as against 56,851 in 1919. This is a situation which demands serious consideration, as the Colony depends on this source of supply for its meat.

24. Sheep and Goats. 43,000 were registered, as against 61,000 in 1919.

25. Native cloths made from yarns spun in the country and woven on primitive looms are increasingly popular. A large increase took place in their distribution, no doubt owing to the inflated prices of Manchester cloths.

26. Shea butter and Dawa Dawa, the latter being prepared from the Locust bean, form a very important article of commerce between this Territory and Ashanti and the Colony. Both fats find a ready market at prices higher than they would fetch at home. The supply is restricted by the difficulties of getting to market.

27. In this connection, I would quote the Governor who said in his address to the Legislative Council in 1920 :—

“ And I repeat now what I said last month in this Chamber that the whole future of the Gold Coast is bound up with the development of the ground-nut and shea butter industries of the Northern Territories.

“ I have been there and seen them both growing. I have seen millions of acres of country where ground-nuts are indigenous and can grow in prodigious quantities without the constant labour of clearing the forest and bush of the Colony and Ashanti. And I know that the people of the Northern and more inaccessible parts of the country will migrate for the farming season to the Southern parts where the ground-nut grows, returning to their homes after the harvest just as they do now from the Colony and Ashanti.

“ With a railway there, and a deep-water harbour at the end of it, we should have 300 less miles of railway transport and 300 miles less of sea transport than Nigeria to the markets of the world.

“ As for the shea-nut, we should be in an unrivalled position. I have seen thousands of acres of nuts rotting on the ground—thousands of acres of trees of which the nut-crops on one side have been destroyed by the annual fires—a loss easily avertible by the cultivation of surrounding belts of ground-nuts.”

28. It will be seen that at present trade is carried on under the most primitive conditions. The pending advent of motor transport—together with the increasing demand from the South for all kinds of foodstuffs—will revolutionize trade here even before the railway comes. We may expect Coast traders to come up and establish depots for the collection of such articles as Yams, Shea butter, Dawa Dawa, Native cloth, Guinea corn, Millet, Fowls etc., all of which are in great demand, and will fetch remunerative prices when sent down by road or river.

AGRICULTURE.

29. Crops were excellent throughout the country.

They consist principally of Yams, Guinea corn, Millet, Ground-nuts, Beans, Tobacco and Sweet potatoes. Maize is grown in certain districts.

30. The area under cultivation is increasing yearly, as the demand for foodstuffs grows, and it is certain that in the near future this Dependency will become a supplying area for the Cocoa districts where insufficient foodstuffs are produced to supply the large towns.

The people are keen and industrious farmers.

AGRICULTURAL STATIONS.

31. Tamale. The rotation experiment with Cotton, Rice and leguminous crops was continued in the season 1919-1920.

Black Rattler cotton yielded 173 lbs. seed cotton per acre, as against 151 lbs. in the previous year.

Manured cotton gave 320 lbs. seed to the acre, and unmanured 182 lbs. All plots showed improvement, the total seed in lbs. being 1,774 lbs.

32. Rice of the American variety yielded 505 lbs. per acre. Bondobi came next with 310 lbs. It is hoped to develop this crop extensively.

33. Ground-nuts and Beans of various sorts were planted on ground used for rice the previous season. Ground-nuts were a failure, Bambarra beans yielded 642 lbs. per acre, Geocarpa 356 lbs. per acre, and Pigeon peas 175 lbs. per acre.

34. Fibres. The following fibre extractions were carried out by prison labour.

	Leaves.	Weight.	Result in fibre.
Mauritius Hemp ..	1,000	1,865 lbs.	29 lbs.
Sisal Hemp	7,650	9,412 lbs.	394 lbs.

35. The Kapok trees planted amongst the Sisal hems were a failure.

36. The experiments with regard to Ashanti maize were not completed. It grew well on two small plots, but the green cobs were distributed. No returns have been received from three outstations to which some seed was sent.

37. Timber. The teak on plot 20 is doing well and seeding freely, but on 15½ acres planted out at stake most of the young trees died from drought.

1½ acres of Mahogany seedlings planted out are doing exceptionally well. This experiment will be extended.

Revenue from various sales amounted to £31 5s. Od.

38. Small stations are maintained at Wa and Gambaga.

No report is to hand from the fine Station at Yendi, where the Curator will in future reside.

39. In the absence of the Veterinary Department the herd of cattle was in charge of the Curator. It numbered 46 head. Towards the end of the year signs of illness appeared, and the herd was handed over to the Veterinary Officer, who had returned to the Northern Territories.

CATTLE.

40. The Cattle of the Northern Territories are of the small unhumped variety, as distinguished from the Zebu, or humped animals that come down from the North.

14. The Veterinary Officer, who submitted a most valuable report on the Live-stock of the Northern Territories (Gold Coast Government Press, 1920.—Report on Live-Stock Industries of the Northern Territories) to which those especially interested are referred, describes these Cattle as small symmetrical compact animals very much like a miniature short-horn. They are slow in development and reach their full size at the age of six, seven or eight years. If allowed to reach their full development they shape into very fine animals and would compete against some of the small European fancy breeds such as Dexter and Kerry.

No attention whatever up to date has been paid to breeding or selection and in consequence the herds are weedy and undersized.

42. The number at the beginning of the year was estimated at 68,500. Cattle sickness (Rinderpest), was rife during the year, and very large quantities died. No part of the country was free from it. A Census is being taken during 1921 when it will be possible to compute the losses suffered.

43. Very few of these cattle are driven down to the Coast for food—nearly all the butchers meat being the humped Zebu cattle which merely pass through the Northern Territories from the North.

44. The potentialities of this country as an area for raising cattle were investigated by an expert sent out by interested parties from England. I have not seen his report, but I have reason to believe that it was not too favourable owing to the prevalence of so many tsetse fly belts.

OTHER LIVE STOCK.

45. Sheep and Goats were estimated at 153,000. They are mostly small and in bad need of good sires. These animals however have not suffered so much from in-breeding as others owing to the considerable numbers of large Hausa sheep that constantly come down the road. Their flesh is succulent and tender.

46. There are estimated 1,097 horses and 2,300 donkeys, and only 320 pigs. The small number of the latter is due to the fact that the live-stock trade is in the hands of Mohammedans.

47. Outside the fly belts horses do well. They are bred up North in French country; no mares are allowed to come down. The breed shows Arab traces but all are small and weedy.

INDUSTRIES.

48. Agriculture is the chief industry throughout the country.

Large quantities of Native cloths are now made, this trade having received a great fillip from the high prices asked for English goods. Towards the end of the year many loads of these cloths were sent down to the Colony.

49. Three English hand looms were brought out in December and are now being set up. It is hoped that the native weavers will adopt their use, and so make cloth 30 inches or more wide instead of three inches as at present.

50. Other industries for local consumption include iron and leather working, pot making, baskets, ornaments, etc.

51. An excellent quality of cord and string is being made in the Zouaragu district from hibiscus fibre. This has been successfully used in the Government offices.

MINERALS.

52. Traces of Gold and Alluvial Deposits have been found in the Wa and Bole Districts and marketable Mica has been traced in the North-Eastern Province, but up to now owing to transport-difficulties no serious attempt to develop the mineral resources has been made.

III.—LEGISLATION.

53. The following Ordinances were applied to the Northern Territories during the year :—

1. Amending Northern Territories Ordinance.
2. Amending Northern Territories Administration Ordinance. Substituting Chief Commissioner for Governor in Spirituous Liquors Ordinance.
3. Second further Amendment Ordinance. Applying Opium Ordinance.
4. Third further Amendment Ordinance. Adding Extensions of Criminal Code.
5. To revise the printed edition of Laws.
6. Imposing Imports and Exports Restriction Ordinance.
7. Imposing Mixed Nickel Currency Ordinance.
8. West African Compassionate Gratuity Ordinance.
9. Imposing the Census Ordinance.
10. Evidence (Colonial Statutes) Northern Territories Ordinance.
11. Post Office Charlatanic Uses Ordinance.
12. Amending Infectious Diseases Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

54. The Government Primary School at Tamale is at present the only one in the Southern Province.

The total number of pupils on the register is 85, with an average daily attendance of 60.34, as compared with 56 in 1919 and 57 in 1918.

55. Progress is disappointing, but the reason for the comparative failure is not far to seek. Most of the pupils are not natives of Tamale, and lodging and food is hard to get. A native may send his son to school, but it is difficult to get him to provide for him while there, in consequence the boy boards himself out as house-boy in return for his services, and has this to do in addition to his school work. He often goes to school already tired and in many cases much underfed.

56. A new school building is in course of erection at Tamale, but is not finished at the end of the year.

57. At Gambaga, the Government School had 42 pupils, but the Commissioner reports the results to be not altogether satisfactory, mainly from the reasons given above in the case of the Tamale School.

58. At Wa, the Government School is progressing and is favourably reported on by the Commissioner. The number on the roll is 50, and the average attendance 42.

59. At Lorha, the average attendance is 41.

The White Fathers at Navarro have had to close their school for lack of funds.

60. Mohammedan Schools exist at all the more prominent Mohammedan centres. Education consists in learning parts of the Koran by heart.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

61. In addition to those Government institutions that are mentioned under "Education" and "Judicial," there are Government Native Hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga and Bole, Wa, Tumu and Lorha, Gambaga and Zouaragu.

62. Those at Tamale and Salaga are permanent buildings, the others of adobe bricks with grass roofs.

63. Owing to the lack of Medical Officers, very little advantage is taken of these institutions.

The few natives that come in to be treated by the native dressers get tired if a marvellously rapid cure is not effected, and go back to their native medicines.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

64. During the year this force was increased by the following additions to its personnel.

1 Adjutant,
2 Assistant Commandants,
50 Rank and File.

65. Captain Massie was appointed Adjutant, and the Assistant Commandants were in process of being filled at the end of the year.

The additional rank and file has been recruited.

66. Unfortunately Captain Fowler, the Commandant, died of pneumonia in November, when on leave, and the Force lost a most valuable officer.

Discipline was thoroughly maintained, and this fine body of men kept up its reputation for efficiency and smartness.

The additions to its strength will provide for the policing of that part of Togoland that is to be administered by the Northern Territories Staff, and will also enable the outlying detachments to be inspected with much more frequency.

PRISONS.

67. Central Prison, Tamale. This prison takes in all Northern Territories convicts who are sentenced to more than six months.

It is superintended by the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, and is staffed by a Native Keeper of Prisons, one Senior Warder, one Second-class Warder, and an average of 26 Temporary Warders.

68. 309 prisoners were admitted during the year, the average daily number being 99.9.

There were two escapes, and no recaptures.

69. One capital sentence was carried out. There were six deaths. General health was good.

70. The work performed by the prisoners is mostly extramural, and consists of sanitary work, water carrying, road work, well-sinking, etc.

Discipline was excellent.

The total cost of the prison for the year was £7,193.

71. Gaols for short sentence prisoners exist at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku.

72. The Chief Commissioner's Court is the Court of superior jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters for the Protectorate. The Chief Commissioner and the Circuit Judge exercise concurrent jurisdiction in this court; except that the Chief Commissioner deals principally with civil cases involving native law, while the Circuit Judge deals principally with civil cases involving English law. The Circuit Judge deals also with criminal cases generally; and he alone has jurisdiction in capital cases. The procedure in this court is regulated by the Administration Ordinance of 1902, and follows the general lines of that in vogue in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. The Jury system is not however in use in the Protectorate.

73. Provincial Commissioners have powers to try summarily offences punishable by a fine up to £100, or imprisonment for twelve months, District Commissioners being limited to £50 and six months respectively. More serious offences are committed for trial before the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

74. Civil Jurisdiction is also exercised by Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners in suits not exceeding claims for £200 and £50 respectively, all others going to the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

75. Native Chiefs have power to try cases referring to native customs, marriage, etc. They are encouraged to exercise their power, and seem to do so wisely and well, as few appeals are lodged.

76. Comparative table of Crimes for the last four years :—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
The number of Offences reported to the Police	583	579	587	611
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrate	583	579	587	616
The number of Summary Convictions :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	71	102	101	112
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than praedial Larceny ..	127	152	161	155
4. For Offences against Health etc. Acts	195	19	21	151
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts including Acts relating to indentured labour ..	5	—	2	23
6. For other Offences	65	82	119	87
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	16	13	9	2
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny ..	12	14	6	2
4. For other Offences	15	6	1	8
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	81	111	118	73
2. In the Superior Courts	19	14	24	3

77. These figures include Yendi which was administered throughout the year. Forty offences were reported there.

The small increase under Head 5. is due to labourers of one or two gangs taking their subsistence, and then deserting.

There was a considerable increase in prosecutions under the Health Acts. These are invariably for trivial offences against Sanitary rules, and the penalty is never more than a few shillings fine.

The absence of premeditated crime is extraordinary, and speaks volumes for the law-abiding nature of the people. Practically all the reported offences were due to the impulse or passion of the moment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

78. European Officials in the Protectorate numbered 36. There was one death from blackwater at Yeji, and one was invalided from the same cause from Tamale.

Eighteen individuals were on the sick list for a total of 181 days.

The Provincial Medical Officer reports that considering the very trying climate, and the conditions of life, the health of officials during the year may be classed as good.

One official died when on leave from pneumonia.

79. Native Officials numbered 54. There were no deaths, and only 12 cases on the sick list.

80. In addition there were four European Ladies, three White Fathers, and one Syrian Trader. The latter died of chronic alcoholism, but there was no sickness amongst the others.

81. The health of the constabulary, the Company of the West African Frontier Force, and the prisoners was good.

82. Medical Officers were stationed at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga, with dispensers or nurses at Tamale, Salaga, Gambaga, Zouaragu and Wa.

83. The Provincial Medical Officer reports that the Protectorate was understaffed with Medical Officers, and strongly recommends an increase of staff as early as possible.

NATIVE POPULATION.

84. The computed area of the country is 31,100 square miles and the population ten years ago was reckoned at 361,806, or an average of 11.6 to the mile. A Census is being taken in 1921 and it is thought that in spite of cerebro-spinal meningitis and influenza, the population will be found to have considerably increased.

85. The population is most unevenly distributed—the districts in the North being thickly inhabited, while the Southern Province is only sparsely populated.

86. A very serious attack of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred during

the year. This disease is now held to be endemic, and appears annually in the dry season.

87. It started this year in the Lorha District at the extreme North-west during January, and spread rapidly southwards, and even entered Ashanti, supposedly for the first time.

88. Every effort with the limited staff available was made to combat its spread, but it continued until the rains.

The deaths numbered about 3,000.

89. A close study of it was made on the spot by Doctor Dalziel, the Senior Sanitary Officer, and I would refer those interested to his careful and valuable report published at Accra (Sessional Paper VI.—1919—1920).

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

90. The following table shows the annual rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last ten years :—

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	44.42	32.36	48.01	33.32	42.65	46.57	55.76	44.45	37.8	36.95

An average of 42.23.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

91. This year saw the opening of the motor road through from the south to Tamale, and now mails come in by motor. The service was very irregular, owing to the vagaries of the transport, but nevertheless showed an improvement over the old system of head loads.

92. There are post and telegraph offices at Tamale, Salaga and Yeji. These three offices, which are all on the same line of wire from the south, dealt with 37,050 messages.

93. Salaga dealt with 1,291 bags of mails for the Eastern part of the country.

94. From Tamale to the North, the mails are carried by runners supplied by the Chiefs on monthly contracts. This service has been satisfactorily maintained.

95. On the Western side, there is a telegraph line to, and a Post Office at, Wa, but owing to there being no Post Office staff it has had to be worked by the Political Clerks. It is interesting to note that these men have learnt the code and kept the line open quite satisfactorily throughout the year.

On this side also all mails are carried by weekly runners.

IX.—RELIGION.

96. The bulk of the people are pagans—but there are large numbers of Mohammedans.

97. Christianity has made little impression as yet. At Navarro, the Peres Blancs have a Roman Catholic Mission. There were three Fathers in residence throughout the year. They claim 245 converted Christians, and about 900 attendants at their services.

98. There are no other Missions in the Country, but the Clerks at Lamale hold a weekly service in the Court House.

99. The relations between Mohammedans and Pagans and a short description of the latter appeared in last year's report, and I quote it again :—

“ Although the Pagan portions of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is primordial animism. Each town or village has its own ‘fetish,’ which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief Priest's compound and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three-pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant. These represent the ‘fetish’ itself, which is recognised in many forms, as lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird or reptile. Such ‘fetishes’ guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their Priests. When offended, these ‘fetishes’ are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep and goats, and of black cats or dogs.

“ Every family has its own ‘fetish,’ usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support; the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

“ The ‘Lightning Fetish’ is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No pagan would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.”

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

POLITICAL.

100. Relations with the French, who now surround us on all sides except the South, have been most cordial. Numerous visits have been

interchanged, and local assistance to each other frequently given by the Officers of both nations.

101. The country throughout the year was in a state of profound peace. The Lobis however—a tribe in the far north-west—which is divided into two by the Anglo-French frontier—have been giving the French some trouble. They completely flouted all authority and at the end of the year were in a state of anarchy. As there is considerable jealousy between the French Lobis and those on this side of the Frontier, it was feared that the temporary withdrawal of the French troops might be taken advantage of in order to make raids across the border; consequently a force of 50 Northern Territories Constabulary was sent up to patrol the boundary. This was successful and nothing whatever occurred, and towards the end of the year it was found possible to withdraw most of the detachment.

102. A member of the Northern Territories Political Staff was stationed at Yendi throughout the year, and administered that part of Togo under the political control of the Chief Commissioner.

ADMINISTRATION.

103. The Chief Commissioner, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., was promoted to be Governor of the Gambia. He proceeded direct there from here, handing over to his successor Mr. A. J. Philbrick in December.

104. The shortage of Political Officers rendered it necessary to double up the Districts of Yeji and Salaga, Lorha and Tumu and Navarro-Zouaragu.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

105. Relations between the Government and the Natives, both Chiefs and people, were excellent.

106. Between the Chiefs and people there were very few disturbances. In a large part of the country it is a new thing to have Chiefs in authority; each man who owned a compound was a law unto himself. The institution of an elected Chief was much resented by the old men in the Northern Province, but the people as a whole are now accepting it.

107. Southern Province and Yendi. A new King was put on the stool of Yendi and the occasion was taken to join up again the whole of the Dagomba Natives who had been divided by the Anglo-German boundary.

108. The candidate selected was the proper one, being the old semi-blind Chief of Savelugu. He resigned at once on account of his declining health, and in his place Abudulai, the Regent, was unanimously selected. This caused great joy to all Dagombas. A few days after the Chief of Savelugu died and his stool is still vacant.

109. No other native affairs of importance occurred in the North-eastern and North-western Provinces.

ROADS.

110. The year was an important one as regards the improvement of communications throughout the country.

111. The main road from the South was repaired and remade up to Tamale—a distance of 122 miles from Prang. This road, though not yet furnished with permanent bridges all through, is now fit for carrying motor traffic and will be open all the year for its entire length except in exceptional flood times.

112. From Tamale it has been extended to Nasia and Gambaga (100½ miles). This section is open for motor traffic except during the rains.

113. The above two roads were under the supervision of the Public Works Department—paid labour being supplied by the Chiefs.

114. From Nasia a branch road has been made fit for motor traffic in the dry weather to Paragu, Nangodi, Zouaragu, Navarro and Sandema.

115. The road to Yendi from Tamale (70 miles) has been remade and provisionally bridged, and is now open to motor traffic.

116. In the Western Province, motor roads suitable for dry weather traffic were completed to Lorha, Tumu and the Navarro boundary, and Southwards to the Bole district boundary.

117. A map is attached shewing this development*.

REST HOUSES.

118. Of these there are no less than 296 in the country. They are of the Round Hut type, and generally consist of a cluster of these huts surrounded by a wall.

119. They are in charge of the local Chiefs and are kept, as a rule, in excellent condition.

FERRIES.

120. In the Southern Province there are 15 ferries, all worked by the Chiefs who own them, except :—

Yeji Ferry. Worked by Government. This ferry carries the main road traffic over the Volta. The receipts were £1,423 15s. 6d. as against £1,230 17s. 8d. in 1919. An annual rent of £220 is paid to the Chief of Yeji, and the expenses of upkeep, which are heavy, are paid by the Government. During the year pontoons consisting of large canoes joined together by deck planks were constructed. On these motor cars are transported with reasonable safety and speed.

- i. Buipe Ferry. This is on the direct road from Kintampo to Daboya, and is much used by traders. It was taken over by the Government late in the year owing to complaints having

* Not printed.

been received. It is maintained by the Government, one-third of the gross takings go to the Chief who owns it.

121. In the North-western Province are two cable ferries across Volta worked by the French.

122. In the North-western Province are various small ferries worked by the Chiefs, who charge small dues.

TRANSPORT.

123. The advent of motor transport between Coomassie and Tamale effecting a great change in the country, and like most changes it has caused considerable inconvenience and discomfort which, however, in now counter-balanced the immense advantage gained.

124. Owing to mechanical troubles there was a great shortage of lorries and, in consequence, loads could not be brought up, one result being that building and Public Works Department operations had to be shut down. Mails also were much delayed.

125. The use of motors has freed a very large number of men who used to be carriers. They now go down and work on the new railways and on the mines.

126. Some idea of the amount of traffic will be given by the figures for the five lorries stationed at Salaga during November and December, the only months available.

They ran 12,038 miles, and dealt with 1,900 loads.

Apart from this main road, all transport is done by head load.

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

127. Maps giving details were supplied to the Surveyor General for use in the new Wall Map of the Colony.

PUBLIC WORKS.

128. At Tamale, a Court House for the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories and a new school building were begun, but could not be finished owing to the shortage of materials.

129. A stone bungalow is in course of erection at Gambaga, to replace the one destroyed by lightning last year.

130. No other public works of importance were in hand, but at all stations small works were undertaken by the Commissioners and all existing buildings were kept in proper repair.

LABOUR.

131. There is practically no skilled labour in the country, all is imported from the Colony proper, at high rates of wages.

132. The unskilled labour of the Northern Territories is in great demand throughout the Colony, where there was a pronounced shortage throughout the year. This was due to various causes—principally the increase of Cocoa farming, the large Government programme, and the absence of boys from other Colonies, who were able to find work in their own countries, or who were prohibited from leaving them.

133. An organized system of recruiting labour for the railway extension, Public Works and Mines was introduced. Gangs of 25 men with a headman were collected, given metal numbers, and sent down to the works. They were paid at the rate of 1s. 6d. per diem, 6d. of which was retained until the end of their service of six months duration.

134. The following number were recruited in this way :—

Southern Province	..	..	600
Western Province	..	..	1,600
Eastern Province	..	..	1,475
Yendi	..	..	690

Total .. 4,365

On their return it is hoped that a further supply will be available.

135. Very large numbers also engaged themselves to work on the roads locally—probably over 2,000 in the Southern Province alone.

GOLD COAST REGIMENT.

136. A company of the Regiment was stationed at Tamale throughout the year.

CLIMATE.

137. The climate is singularly hot and trying, and is very lowering to vitality, and irritating to the nervous system.

138. The months of February and March are generally very hot, and the whole country is infested with flies and with mosquitos.

There are no openings whatever for white labour.

GENERAL.

139. His Excellency the Governor and his staff visited the Northern Territories in April. It had been his intention to hold a large Durbar at Tamale, but in view of the fact that cerebro-spinal meningitis was very prevalent at the time, it was thought more prudent not to bring in large numbers of people.

140. His Excellency made a speech to the Dagombas and Gonjas who were assembled, and touched on the importance of agriculture and transport. He pointed out the necessity for supplying labour to complete the railways in the Colony.

He distributed medals for acts of special bravery to four men of the regiment.

Visits were paid to Yendi and Salaga and addresses given at each place.

ARTHUR J. PHILBRICK,
Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

TAMALE,

15th APRIL, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	1919
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Wei-hai-wei	1918-1919
1098	Nigeria	1920
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the island, by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

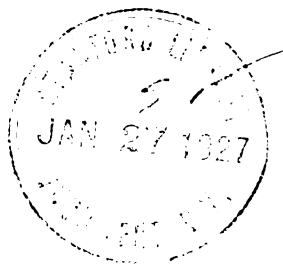
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1106.

SEYCHELLES.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1061.)



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SEYCHELLES.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.*

FINANCE.

1. The total revenue collected was Rs.678,596, an increase over 1919 of Rs.104,654. The total expenditure was Rs.615,920, a decrease of Rs.10,924 compared with 1919. The year's transactions, therefore, resulted in an excess of Rs.62,676. Customs Revenue produced Rs.298,193, compared with Rs.207,503 in 1919, an increase of Rs.90,690.

2. The year 1920 proved good for trade generally. Steamship communications with India and Africa were resumed in a regular manner. Merchants' stocks were depleted at the end of 1919, but advantage was taken of the favourable rates of exchange in 1920 to import general merchandise from Europe. This was reflected in the increase of revenue from Customs imports.

3. The following is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last three years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i> Rs.	<i>Expenditure.</i> Rs.
1918	408,849	441,234
1919	573,643	626,845
1920	678,596	615,920

4. The assets of the Colony on the 31st December, 1920, exceeded the liabilities by Rs.136,713. The investments of the Colony were as follows :—

On account of general Revenue	..	Rs.108,126
On account of Savings Bank	..	Rs. 46,729

PUBLIC DEBT.

The balance remaining due to the Imperial Treasury on account of the loan of £20,000 made to Seychelles in 1900 for road making was £8,532. In addition, a sum of Rs.50,000 was borrowed from Mauritius for building an auxiliary schooner.

* Sketch Maps will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 846 (Cd. 7622-37).

TRADE.

6. The total value of the trade of the Colony was Rs.2,810,150, compared with Rs.3,326,697 in 1919. This is accounted for by the decreased shipment of coprah, which in 1919 was exceptional, as much of the coprah which should have been shipped in 1918 was carried forward to 1919, owing to shipping difficulties. The shipment of 2,563 tons in 1920 may be regarded as normal.

IMPORTS.

7. The value of the imports was Rs.1,716,408, compared with Rs.1,125,318 in 1919.

8. The imports from the United Kingdom showed an increase in value of Rs.218,059 compared with 1919; the imports from India increased by Rs.262,515.

EXPORTS.

9. The exports were valued at Rs.1,711,955, compared with Rs.2,101,377 in 1919, a decrease of Rs.389,422, which is accounted for solely by the export of coprah becoming normal, as explained in paragraph 6. A remarkable increase in the production of essential oil from cinnamon leaves took place, the total quantity exported being 39,500 litres, compared with 24,400 litres in 1919. The value in 1920 was about Rs.10 per litre, or Rs.395,000.

10. The principal countries of destination of our exports were as under :—

United Kingdom	Rs.764,891
British Possessions	Rs.305,729
France and French Colonies	Rs.636,885

The export trade of the Colony with the United Kingdom shows an increase of Rs.59,000 over that of 1919.

SAVINGS BANK.

11. The balance standing to the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1920, was Rs.82,444, against Rs.101,581 in 1919, being a decrease of Rs.19,137 compared with the previous year's balance.

AGRICULTURE.

12. *The Coconut Industry.*—The crop of coconuts in 1920 reached the estimated figure of 23,159,172 nuts, and was disposed of as follows :—

Nuts exported	95,847
Nuts converted into coprah.. .. .	17,943,065
Nuts converted into oil	1,111,260
Nuts consumed locally	4,000,000

This crop compared favourably with the average crop for the last five years. The compulsory cleaning of coconut planta-

tions, which was introduced in 1919, has been responsible for an increase in the crop for 1920. The attention of small planters has been drawn to the prevalent coconut diseases, and the eradication of these diseases is progressing slowly but satisfactorily. Coconuts were sold locally during the year at the rate of Rs.40 per 1,000 nuts. Coprah was quoted at the average rate of Rs.325 a ton in Europe. The soapmaking industry, in which a considerable quantity of coconut oil is used, was discontinued during the year under review, owing to the difficulty in obtaining soda from abroad.

13. *The Rubber Industry.*—The exportation of rubber during the year amounted to 24,000 lb., as compared with 30,000 lb. exported during the previous year. The local price of this article in 1920 was R1. per kilo.

14. *The Essential Oil Industry.*—Considerable progress was made during the year under review in the distillation of essential oils. The quantity exported during the year was valued at Rs.420,104. Towards the end of the year the market price of cinnamon leaf oil fell from Rs.12 to Rs.4 a kilo., and many distilleries were compelled to close, thus decreasing by about a third the expected total production during the year. The demand for cinnamon leaf oil on the European market practically ceased. This was a severe blow to the industry, in which over 1,500 labourers were engaged.

15. *The Vanilla Industry.*—Three tons of vanilla were exported during the year 1920, as compared with four tons in the previous year. The crop for 1920 is the smallest ever produced in the Colony. The vanilla vines in this Colony suffer severely from disease. Researches in connection with the treatment of this disease are in progress, and a complete set of vines has been forwarded to the Bureau of Mycology showing the beginning of the disease at the root. A report on these specimens is expected to arrive shortly.

16. *The Coffee Industry.*—It is estimated that more than 3,000 Robusta coffee trees were planted out on the Forêt Noire and Morne Blanc Crown Lands about three years ago. The trees appear to be in a very promising condition, and there are indications of a good crop next year.

17. *Reafforestation.*—The work of reafforestation on the bare lands of the Colony, especially along the banks of the rivers, has received attention, and a number of trees of all kinds were set out during the year under review on the Le Niol Crown Land.

FISHERIES.

18. The majority of the natives of Seychelles are born sailors and skilful seamen, and the greater number of families living on the sea-shore own their own small fishing boat. Fish and turtles

(*Chelonia mydas*) are plentiful, and large quantities are consumed locally. The average daily consumption of fish in the town of Victoria only, during 1920, amounted to 1,250 kilos. Schooners of from 20 to 90 tons bring up salted fish and live turtles in large quantities from the outlying islands. Before the War, salt fish was exported in very large quantities to Zanzibar, Réunion, Mauritius, and Madagascar. In 1915, 40,000 kilos. were exported to these places, the estimated value being Rs.8,500. This trade has, however, greatly diminished since the War, and in 1920 only 1,275 kilos. were exported. The fishing industry is capable of far greater development, and there seems to be no reason why Seychelles should not be able to send to Mauritius and other adjacent Colonies at profitable rates a constant supply of salted and pickled fish.

The number of hawksbill turtle (*Chelonia imbricata*) obtained during the year under review was most satisfactory; the local prices for tortoise-shell were good, varying between Rs.22 and Rs. 25 per lb., and the quantity exported (mostly to the United Kingdom) was 1,280 kilos., valued at Rs.55,885. The giant land tortoise on the Aldabra Islands continues to be carefully preserved both at Aldabra and elsewhere.

SHIPPING.

19. The total tonnage of merchant shipping entered and cleared was 166,798, compared with 131,919 the previous year. Of the 49 ships which entered the port, 43 were British, 4 Norwegian, and 2 Dutch.

LEGISLATION.

20. Thirteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislature during 1920. The principal Ordinances were No. 1, an Ordinance designed to restrain profiteering, and No. 3, which made it lawful for the local Marine Board to issue to qualified persons Certificates of Competency as Masters and Mates, enabling them to take any vessel registered in the Colony on any voyage in the Indian Ocean and Mozambique Channel within the following limits :—Between the Equator and thirty degrees south latitude and between the East Coast of Africa and eighty degrees longitude east of Greenwich. These certificates have been recognised by the Union Government of South Africa, and by the Governments of Kenya, Tanganyika, and Mauritius.

EDUCATION.

21. *Reorganisation of the Education System.*—The revised scheme came into operation in July, 1920. The Government ceased to maintain a Secondary School, all Secondary Education being left to voluntary bodies. The Government Free School for Primary Education was retained and expanded. Government Exhibitions and Scholarships were established by which

suitable pupils, either privately educated or from Primary Schools, might pass into Secondary Schools and thence to Universities or other Teaching Institutions in the Empire. A Director of Education was appointed with wider powers than those formerly possessed by the Inspector of Schools. Provision was also made for awarding the Grant to Grant-in-Aid Schools in accordance with the principles followed in England. Their curriculum and syllabus were also brought up to date.

Schools and School Attendance.—The number of Grant-in-Aid Schools was 20, 18 Roman Catholic and 2 Church of England. The total number of children on school registers in 1920 was 2,282. Of these, 275 were at the Government School, 1,674 were Grant-in-Aid pupils, and 333 were receiving secondary education. The average attendance for 1920 was (1) Government Schools 187, or nearly 70 per cent.; (2) Grant-in-Aid Schools 1,057, or 63 per cent.; (3) Secondary Schools 250, or 76 per cent. Education is not compulsory.

Finance.—The total grant was Rs.11,214, and the total expenditure Rs.29,505.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

22. *Hospital and Dispensaries.*—634 persons, including 468 men and 166 women, were treated at the Victoria Hospital during 1920. This shows a decrease of 89, as compared with the previous year. Three thousand two hundred and three people received treatment at the Government Dispensaries, a decrease of 1,536 as compared with the year 1919, which was an abnormal year owing to the influenza epidemic.

There was an epidemic of whooping-cough towards the end of 1920; otherwise the public health was good.

23. *Maternity Home.*—There were 217 patients admitted, and 151 babies were born.

24. *Leper Camp.*—The camp in its new situation at Round Island, Mahé, is a great improvement. There were seven inmates during the year.

25. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The number of patients treated was 23.

26. *Fiennes Institute.*—I cannot speak too highly of the benefit of this Institution where aged paupers are looked after and enabled to end their days in peace and comfort when too old to maintain themselves. The average number of inmates during the year was between 90 and 100.

JUDICIAL.

27. The criminal statistics remain approximately the same as the previous year.

One thousand one hundred and sixty-one civil cases, however, were entered during the year, as compared with 1292 in 1919.

Two thousand one hundred and seventy-five cases were brought before the Courts of the Colony, which was practically the same number as the previous year.

POLICE FORCE.

28. The authorised strength of the Police Force was 81, and the Force was divided between 15 stations. This establishment does not, however, include one corporal and six men paid by the Gold Coast Government and two men paid by the Uganda Government, who act as guards in charge of the political prisoners from these Colonies. The force is recruited locally, and, in spite of the indifferent material available, I am pleased to say that the standard of discipline still continues to show signs of improvement. Two thousand four hundred and sixty-nine offences of all descriptions were reported to the Police during the year, in connection with which 1,771 persons were apprehended by the Police or summoned to appear before the different Courts of the Colony.

PRISONS.

29. The number of persons undergoing imprisonment during the year 1920 has shown a considerable decrease; 654 men and 195 women were convicted during the year, as compared with 893 men and 275 women convicted in 1919, a decrease of 239 men and 80 women. This reduction shows that the standard of discipline in the prison has been well maintained. The monthly average was 113·6 men and 20·4 women. There were no alterations made during the year regarding accommodation or staff.

On the whole the health of the prisoners was satisfactory. As in previous years, prison labour was largely used on work of public utility.

The efficiency of the prison system would be greatly increased if a larger number of separate cells were provided.

VITAL STATISTICS.

30. The estimated population of the Colony at the end of the year was 24,811—12,282 males and 12,529 females—showing an increase of 158 as compared with the previous year's figures.

The number of births was 735, being a birth-rate of 29·81 per thousand.

There were 363 deaths, compared with 414 in 1919, the death-rate being 14·72 per thousand. One hundred and nine marriages were celebrated, as compared with 74 the previous year.

CLIMATE.

31. The rainfall was probably slightly less than for the previous year. Owing to the absence of a Port Officer, however, no records were kept during three months of the year, and consequently no reliable statistics are available. The heaviest rainfall occurred on the 30th of January, when a fall of 9·47 in. was recorded. January was the wettest month, the rainfall being 32·63 in. August was the driest month.

MAIL AND POSTAL SERVICE.

32. The revenue amounted to Rs.39,496 and the expenditure to Rs.19,177, leaving a balance in favour of revenue of Rs.20,319.

The mail service during the year was good. Mails from all countries abroad were received on 32 occasions and despatched on 46 occasions.

Mails were despatched to the United Kingdom on 25 occasions and received on 14 occasions.

The prepaid rates of postage for the United Kingdom and places within the British Empire, including Egypt and the British Postal Agencies in Morocco and China, were fixed in June at 9 cents instead of 12 cents for the first ounce and 6 cents for each additional ounce or fraction thereof.

PARCEL POST SERVICE.

33. The parcels from Europe are despatched from London *via* Bombay.

The despatch from Seychelles to Europe is effected in two ways, *via* Bombay and Mombasa. Both services are carried out by the British India Steamship Navigation Company. The parcels received from abroad amounted to 3,884, and those despatched abroad to 510.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.

34. The Eastern Telegraph Company maintains a station at Mahé, and gives a satisfactory service. Seychelles was in telegraphic communication with the outside world throughout the year. There are no public telephones in the Colony.

PUBLIC WORKS.

35. During the year the lepers were removed from Round Island, Praslin, to Round Island, Mahé, necessitating the construction of a guardian's house, four huts and a kitchen. This is a great improvement. The lepers are now under direct medical supervision and better cared for in every way.

Some new cells were constructed at the Central Police Station.

The floor of the Council Room was removed and a parquet floor laid.

A parcel store room, which was urgently required, was constructed at the Central Post Office.

The remainder of the work was confined to upkeep and repairs. The total amount expended by the Public Works Department during the year was Rs.10,450.

GENERAL.

36. The Revenue during the year 1920 was abnormally high, principally owing to the large increase in Customs receipts. This was due to the fact that merchants were renewing their stocks, which had become exhausted during the War. This large increase in import duties is not, however, being maintained this year, but there are signs that the reopening of the guano industry will compensate to some extent for any diminution of Customs receipts.

PHILIP B. PETRIDES,

Government House,
Seychelles,
12th November, 1921.

Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	1919
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Wei-hai-wei	1918-1919
1098	Nigeria	1920
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the islands by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1107.

ASHANTI.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1058.)



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FINANCIAL.

1. The Revenue and Expenditure of Ashanti is pooled with that of the Gold Coast Colony and that of the Protectorate of the Northern Territories. It is worth while, however, to endeavour to arrive at some idea of the financial position of Ashanti by considering certain items of the more important branches of Revenue and Expenditure, such as can be directly allocated to Ashanti, or can be made the subject of fairly reasonable calculation.

REVENUE.

2. Local receipts amounted to £57,200. The most important items were the following :—

	£
Firearms and Ammunition Licences ..	5,500
Spirit Licences	5,600
Court Fines, etc.	6,300
Stamp Duties, etc.	2,650
Rent of Government Lands	6,200
Mining Royalties	22,000

3. The bulk of the Revenue of the Gold Coast, however, comes from Customs Duties and Railway Receipts.

4. As regards imports, it has been possible through the good offices of the Customs Department at Secondee to obtain statistics of goods entered through the port of Secondee and consigned to Ashanti. For the extra labour the collection of the information has involved my thanks are due to the Head of the Customs Department at Secondee.

5. Spirit duties are not kept apart from other specific duties, and to arrive at separate figures entailed the examination of 18,651 Customs entries. The result shows that for 1920, the duties collected at Secondee on goods passing to Ashanti, were as follows :—

Spirits	£34,660
Other Duties	297,540
Total	£332,200

6. As regards the only dutiable exports in 1920, Cocoa, the quantity railed from stations in Ashanti reached a total of 37,500 tons. An export tax of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. on this quantity brings in a revenue of £175,000.

7. The outwards and inwards railway traffic, passengers and goods, of Ashanti stations is a matter of record. A fair estimate of the proportion of gross receipts, directly assignable to Ashanti, is reported to be £181,000.

3. To sum up, therefore, the Revenue of Ashanti, from the sources discussed in the foregoing paragraphs was for the year 1920, as follows :—

Local Receipts	..	..	..	..	£57,200
Duty on Spirits	..	..	..	..	34,660
Other Import Duties	..	..	..	..	297,540
Export Duty on Cocoa	..	..	..	..	175,000
Railway Receipts	..	..	..	..	181,000
Total					£745,400

It must be borne in mind, however, as regards imports and exports that the Secondee-Coomassie Railway, though the principal, is not the only channel of communication between Ashanti and the sea, for there is a certain amount of traffic of which no statistics are obtainable by road between the Eastern borders of Ashanti and the Gold Coast Colony. It must also be remembered that a share of the Revenue from Posts and Telegraphs, estimated at £89,000 for the whole of the Gold Coast, and a share also of the Interest on General Account estimated at £150,000, must be credited to Ashanti.

EXPENDITURE.

9. The principal branches of Expenditure are :—

Administration, Political and Judicial.
 Railways.
 Public Works.
 Sanitation.
 Transport.

10. The actual expenditure on Administration, including Personal Emoluments, amounted during the year to £30,000.

11. As regards the Ashanti share of Railway Expenditure, including working expenses and all interest Charges on loan works, a fair approximate figure is considered to be £130,000.

12. The expenditure for Ashanti on Public Works Personal Emoluments was not separately recorded. Other Public Works Expenditure was as follows :—

Other Charges	..	..	..	£2,300
Recurrent	..	..	..	28,900
Extraordinary	..	..	..	50,000

A proportion, not easily extracted, of the expenditure on the Coomassie-Tamale road under Extraordinary is properly chargeable to the Northern Territories.

13. The expenditure on Sanitation amounted to £12,500.

14. The expenditure on Transport, exclusive of the cost of new cars and lorries, amounted to £12,000.

15. The items set out in the preceding paragraphs are the principal branches of expenditure in Ashanti, and they amount to a total of £265,700. There are, however, various other branches of expenditure of which shares must be debited to Ashanti, but which it is difficult or which it has not been the practice to allocate directly. The heaviest charges during 1920, would probably be on account of Posts and Telegraphs, Gold Coast Regiment, Police, and Public Debt Charges.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

16. Taking all the factors into consideration it would appear that the financial position of Ashanti is generally satisfactory, and that during 1920 there was a fairly handsome contribution from Ashanti towards the development of the Gold Coast Colony and the Northern Territories Protectorate.

TRADE.

17. The main sea port for Ashanti is Seccondee, but trade for Ashanti passes also through Accra, Winnebah, Saltpond, and Cape Coast. As already pointed out no separate and complete statistics of goods entering Ashanti are obtainable, and no reliable record, therefore, exists of the consumption by Ashantis of imported articles. The goods traffic, however, from the port of Seccondee to stations in Ashanti on the Seccondee-Coomassie line is recorded, and in 1920 amounted to 30,700 tons, as against 17,400 tons in 1919.

18. The export traffic from stations in Ashanti to Seccondee, amounted to 43,471 tons as against 37,300 tons, in 1919. The traffic is mainly in Cocoa and Kola, the totals being 37,500 tons and 3,000 tons respectively.

19. The export of hides and skins by railway was valued at £15,000, as against £7,000 in 1919.

AGRICULTURE.

20. There is an important Agricultural Station at Coomassie, a Sub-station at Juaso, the Headquarters of the Ashanti-Akim District in the Eastern Province of Ashanti, and a new Sub-station, opened during the year, at Ejura, also in the Eastern Province on the Coomassie-Tamale motor road.

COOMASSIE.

21. At the Coomassie station various interesting experiments were pursued in connection with the yield of cocoa, coffee, and rubber trees, the rotation of crops, the treatment of disease, etc. A full record of the experimental and scientific work finds its place in the Annual Report of the Agricultural Department, but it is interesting to note here that, in the course of experiments the yield of cocoa per tree, ten years old, was found to be just over 4lbs., and that the cost, excluding supervision, of preparing rubber to be put on rail worked out at a fraction under 1s. 1d. per lb.

22. There was no great demand for cocoa pods or plants during the year only 54 pods and 250 plants being sold. One thousand Para rubber seeds and 127,000 miscellaneous plants were distributed free. Eighty-two persons are officially recorded as visiting the Station during the year.

23. The rainfall was below the average being 25·90 inches for the year. June was the wettest month with a fall of 10·81 inches, and January the driest with a fall of 0·10.

JUASO

24. At the Juaso Sub-station the area under cultivation is 32½ acres, mainly with cocoa, coffee, rubber, kola, and foodstuffs.

Seventy-two farmers visited the Station, but there was no demand for plants.

The rainfall was 53·32 inches. The wettest month being July with 6·52 inches, and the driest December with 0·21 inches.

EJURA.

25. At Ejura, 50 acres with a frontage on the high road were taken up for the new Station, and during the year 11½ acres were planted with different varieties of hill rice.

26. The expenditure on the upkeep of the Coomassie Station was £970, on the Juaso Station £200, and on the new station at Ejura £300.

27. The activities of the Department are not, however, confined to work on the Agricultural Stations. The Senior Superintendent, who was absent on leave for seven months of the year, the Superintendent, and the two Travelling Instructors made frequent tours through the districts, instructing the farmers on various subjects; the preparation of cocoa, the cultivation of rubber, kola, rice, and other products; and advising generally as to the crops suitable for planting in the differing types of soil and country. About 800 visits were paid during the year to various villages. This itinerant instruction is on practical lines. Meetings in the villages are held under the auspices of the Chief and Headmen, farms are visited, improvements suggested and disease treated, and a demonstration is given, for example, on the proper method of fermentation. Beneficial results from these visits are perhaps slow in manifesting themselves. One finds, however, in the diaries of the Travelling Instructors notes such as "great willingness of the farmers to take one to their farms." "The farmers expressed thanks for the advice given, and were very attentive at the meetings."

It is something therefore that the visits are no longer viewed with suspicion and alarm, but are welcomed and that the meetings attract a large and often highly interested audience. It must, however, be borne in mind that hitherto the returns to the cocoa industry have usually been very easy money, and that there is a large element of speculation about the price. For the day of high prices or of the prospect of them the existing casual methods of the

cultivation of cocoa and its preparation seem sufficient, but when prices reach a stable and more reasonable level, the more intelligent and capable farmers are likely to study improved methods and to apply with greater diligence the teaching of the Agricultural Officers. Even now it is remarked that in some districts the cocoa farms as regards cleaning are receiving better because personal attention for the reason that the farmers unable to afford the high rate of wages for labour are themselves with their families working on the land.

COCOA.

28. The middle season crop was small, but the main crop was up to the average.

29. Insects and fungoid pests were prevalent. There were, it must be admitted, few signs that the farmers generally were ready to take energetic measures to deal with these pests. In some cases the farms were allowed to revert to "bush" when either they would become entirely ruined or the trees would recover and the farm be taken up again. *Sahlbergella Helopeltis* and *Thrip* were particularly rampant. The spread of Brown pod disease was assisted by the neglect of the farmers to pick ripe pods, and by the late rains which favoured the growth of the fungus which is the prime cause of the evil. A more enlightened generation of farmers must appear before comprehensive measures for dealing with plant diseases can be undertaken with any chance of success.

30. The quality of the cocoa shows no sign of improvement. This is not altogether a matter for surprise or reproach. There has been a very strong demand hitherto for the local quality, and as there is room in the wine industry both for vin ordinaire and vintage claret, there seems to be room in the cocoa industry for different qualities of cocoa.

In any case the improvement of the quality of cocoa is not such a formidable problem as the sanitation of the farms.

31. At the beginning of the season prices ruled high, but it was not long before they fell with a crash. It is probable, however, that all the cocoa within easy reach of motor or rail transport was brought to the buying centres in spite of the low price. In less accessible districts it could not be marketed. The low price was not an unmixed evil. It put an effective check on the clearing of new areas for cocoa planting, a tendency which the earnest exhortations of the Agricultural Officers had failed to keep in bounds. A low price also will confine cocoa farming to the neighbourhood of motor and rail transport, and will discourage planting in remote regions where the industry can be profitable only in seasons of high prices. It is satisfactory to note, particularly in the case of large farms, that many of the farmers have kept their heads during the slump, and have not neglected to look after their farms.

32. The quantity of cocoa railed from Ashanti stations was 37,500 tons. This quantity, however, does not represent the total of the Ashantis' crop during the year, for a proportion of the cocoa from the richest planting area finds its way to the seaport by the road out of Ashanti to the Accra railway, and does not therefore appear in the Ashanti Return.

KOLA.

33. Increased attention has been devoted during the year to the cultivation of kola, especially to the white variety.

The area under cultivation has increased and in some villages nurseries of young plants have been established. The kola industry is not one which calls for much effort from the farmers. Hitherto little more is needed or at any rate has been done than to clear round the trees before harvesting in order to facilitate the gathering of the crops. The kola industry has this advantage over the cocoa industry that it is independent of the vagaries of the European markets.

34. The quantity of kola carried by train from Ashanti stations was 3,000 tons. The quantity passing North is reported to be far in excess of the previous year. The price is said to be double what it was some years ago and is now 15s. to 20s. a load or 100 nuts for 9d.

RICE.

35. The cultivation of rice for local consumption is being taken up with keenness, especially in the Ejura District, where dry land rice is planted, mainly by immigrants from the Northern Territories. The yield is small. In the neighbourhood of Coomassie, areas from ten to 20 acres in extent and also small patches are cultivated by Mendis. Low-lying ground is usually selected and the yield is favourable. Rice is also coming into favour at Wenchi, Tekiman, and Kintampo. In the market at the last-named place it fetches 5d. per lb.

FOOD CROPS.

36. Early in the year native foodstuffs became exceedingly scarce and, particularly at cocoa buying centres, commanded exceptionally high prices. Later in the year as the new crops were gathered prices tended to fall, though yams, a staple food, remained at a high price. Throughout the year Political Officers and Officers of the Agricultural Department were at great pains to impress upon the people the urgent need of a larger supply of foodstuffs. These exhortations were heeded for it is reported that a larger area is now under foodstuffs.

37. The victualling of Coomassie with its 20,000 inhabitants was a subject of investigation towards the end of the year. There are fifteen markets held during the week on different days, excepting Mondays and Saturdays, at villages on the various roads leading into Coomassie. The produce changes hands several times before it reaches Coomassie, and the mode of transport from the markets is almost entirely by head-load. Little use is made of the motor lorry, though there are excellent roads in the neighbourhood of Coomassie. Supplies of foodstuffs came also by rail, at one time during the year from as far as Opon Valley in the Gold Coast Colony, and supplies also will be brought by rail from the Eastern portion of Ashanti as sections of the Coomassie-Accra line are opened for traffic. The trade does not appear to be organised in any way, and there are no dealers on a large scale. The

traffic is almost exclusively in the hands of petty traders, mostly women, and a large proportion of the female population in the Coomassie district must be engaged in the daily transport of foodstuffs.

COTTON.

38. The high prices and inferior quality of imported cotton goods have given an impetus to cotton growing especially in the Western Province. Cloths are made of the native cotton and are not merely for local use, but are brought as far as Coomassie for sale.

MINING INDUSTRY.

39. Owing to the high price and scarcity of labour, and to the high prices of materials and food, the year has been one of unremitting difficulty and anxiety for the mining industry.

40. The quantity of fine ounces produced was 70,719 valued at £300,000, as against 100,000 ounces valued at £420,000 in the preceding year. No dredgers were working during the year.

41. The average number employed daily of Europeans was 67 and of Natives 2,500, an increase of 10 Europeans and a decrease of 300 Natives, as compared with 1919.

LEGISLATION.

42. Nineteen Ordinances were passed during the year.

Among the most important were :—

No. 5. Applying to Ashanti The Special Constables Ordinance, 1900, as in force in the Gold Coast Colony.

No. 10. Giving to Commissioners within their respective jurisdiction discretion to carry out a sentence or enforce a judgment of a Native Tribunal.

Hitherto this discretion had been reserved to the Chief Commissioner only.

No. 18. Providing for certain changes in procedure under the Commissioners Ordinance, 1907, and for the appointment of Coroners and the holding of Inquests.

Hitherto enquiries as to the cause of death in certain cases had been conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Fire and Occurrences Inquiry Ordinance, 1899, of the Gold Coast Colony as applied to Ashanti.

No. 19. Giving to the Circuit Judge the powers of a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony in respect to divorce and matrimonial causes.

Hitherto the Courts of Ashanti had no jurisdiction in such causes.

43. Nine Rules under Ashanti Ordinances were made, of which the most important was No. 6 providing for the registration of cattle in Coomassie.

44. The Orders made under Ashanti Ordinances were three. Order No. 2 provided for the extension of the jurisdiction in Civil cases of the District Commissioners of the Central Province, from £50 to £100. Order No. 3 gave to District Commissioners power to try cases of attempted suicide when such cases could be adequately dealt with by a sentence not exceeding six months.

An Order was made by the Governor revoking the importation of the Spirits Prohibition Regulations, and a Proclamation was issued by the Governor with respect to the new alloy coinage.

EDUCATION.

45. There are three Government Schools in Ashanti, one at Coomassie, one at Sunyani in the Western Province, and one at Juaso the Headquarters of the Ashanti-Akim District of the Eastern Province.

46. At the end of the year the number on the roll at Coomassie was 496, at Juaso 138, and at Sunyani 110. At an early date a new Government School at Coomassie on a new site will be necessary, the present buildings are too close to the new railway station and the present site leaves much to be desired. A new site has been selected provisionally and it contains ample space for decent playing fields.

47. Altogether there are about 40 Schools distributed about the Eastern Province, and ten in the Western Province. Coomassie possesses the best facilities for education, but its population is so cosmopolitan that barely 50 per cent. of the School children are Ashantis. Outside Coomassie, and except at Obuasi, Sunyani, and Juaso the Schools are small and the education of a very simple kind.

48. One of the obvious present needs of the Ashanti is a better opportunity on the spot for acquiring something more than the very elementary education of the village School.

The Acting District Commissioner, Kintampo, for instance, writes "There are a number of sawyers, carpenters, bricklayers, and tailors in the bigger villages, but they mostly came from the Gold Coast Colony." This is the case everywhere. The dispensers, surveyors, road overseers, sanitary inspectors, storekeepers, clerks, mechanics, artisans, and so on come as a rule from the Coast. It is true that there are a few Ashanti boys, and their number is increasing, who are sent to Accra and Cape Coast for the educational advantages those towns offer, but until the same advantages are available locally the average Ashanti will not be trained to take much share in certain branches of the development of his country, and is likely to find certain avenues of employment closed to him.

RELIGION.

49. The majority of the inhabitants of Ashanti must still be classed as adherents of their native religion. This has been described by Sir Francis Fuller as "a veneration of ancestors, strongly blended with animism, commonly called fetishism."

50. The tide of progress, however, which has swept over the country in the past few years has loosened the moorings of the ancient religion, and there is little doubt that there would be a very great access of converts to Christianity if the various Missions could seize the opportunities now awaiting them. Mohammedanism does not seem at present to be able to proselytise among the Ashantis, and there is thus a clear field for the Christian Missionary.

51. The Heads of the various Missions speak optimistically of the progress and possibilities of their work, but there is the general lament at the absence of European personnel. It is greatly to be hoped that the ranks of the Missionaries will soon be filled, and that there will be no lack of moral guidance during the unsettling times which it seems the people of Ashanti have now to face.

52. The various Missions established in Ashanti are the following :—

The Seven Day Adventists who have seven Churches and Companies of Believers, and whose members number 283.

The A.M.E. Zion Church with 156 full members and 64 probationers.

The Scottish Mission with 918 communicants and 389 adherents.

The Wesleyan Mission with 8,000 baptised members.

The Roman Catholic Mission with 1,100 converts.

The S.P.G. Mission with a roll of 300 members.

JUDICIAL.

53. There were 3,673 criminal cases heard in the Courts of Ashanti during the year, a decrease of 1,537 on the return for 1919. There were 3,007 convictions, 204 discharges, 58 cases committed for trial, and 433 cases were not proceeded with.

The criminal return includes sanitary cases.

Serious crime was as follows :—

Murder	..	..	..	..	19
Attempted murder	..	..	..	..	2
Manslaughter	..	..	..	..	5
Rape and carnal knowledge	..	..	..	..	11
Robbery with violence	..	..	..	..	11

54. The number of civil cases disposed of during the year was 1,266, a decrease of 513 on the previous year's figures.

55. The busiest Courts are the Court of the Police Magistrate, Coomassie, and the Court of the District Commissioner, Obuasi. In the former 1,487 criminal and 342 civil cases, and in the latter 655 criminal and 450 civil were heard.

56. Court fees and fines amounting to £5,147 during the year, shew an increase of £613 over 1919. The Court of the District Commissioner, Coomassie, heads the list with £2,420, no mean contribution to this total being fines inflicted in connection with disturbances arising over destoolments.

57. The Circuit Judge possesses the criminal and civil jurisdiction formerly vested in the Chief Commissioner. In the case of civil jurisdiction, however, he does not deal with causes or matters to which in his opinion Native Customary Law is principally or substantially applicable. Such cases are still triable by the Chief Commissioner.

58. The Circuit Judge, who was absent on leave until the beginning of February, dealt with 33 civil cases and 102 criminal cases. His jurisdiction in capital cases extends also to the Northern Territories.

CONCESSIONS.

59. Formal notices were filed under Section 9 of the Ashanti Concession Ordinance in respect of 20 concessions taken up during the year.

Five concessions were terminated during the year.

POLICE.

60. The average strength of the Police Force in Ashanti during the year was 155. The number estimated by the 1919 Police Committee as required for Ashanti was 418. It will not be possible for some time to come to reach this standard, but in view of the rapid development of the country a considerable increase of the Force is likely to become necessary in the near future.

61. The detachments at Coomassie and Obuasi have carried out 1,552 prosecutions during the year, and in 82 per cent. of the cases convictions were secured. This means that for every constable in Ashanti, 15 prosecutions have been instituted and 12 convictions have resulted.

62. There were two European Police Officers stationed in Ashanti for most of the year.

The time of one Officer is largely taken up with prosecutions before the Judge. Coomassie itself should have the whole attention of one Officer, and when possible, therefore, an addition to the European personnel of the Force must be made.

PRISONS.

63. In Coomassie Prison there were incarcerated during the year 327 male convict prisoners, six female convict prisoners, 54 male debtor prisoners, and 12 female debtor prisoners. There were eight escapes and one recapture. The health and feeding of the prisoners was good and no complaints were received. The accommodation is not all that could be desired, but it will suffice until the new Central Prison, which it is proposed to establish in Ashanti, can be constructed.

64. There are also Prisons at Obuasi, Juaso, Sunyani, Kintampo, and Ejura. The Prison at Obuasi is the largest of these district Prisons, the number of admissions during the year being 197.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

65. The general health of the European and Native community was on the whole satisfactory.

66. An outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis in the early part of the year occurred in Northern Ashanti. It was most serious in Nkoranza, Kintampo, and Mo, where 135 deaths were reported. Isolation camps were built and military guards established to prevent any communication with the infected areas. At Wenchi and Tekiman the outbreak did not assume serious proportions.

67. The total number of out-patients at the Coomassie Dispensary was 8,690. The common ailments were venereal disease, bronchial affections, and malaria.

68. The admissions to the Native Hospital at Coomassie were 1,290 with 59 deaths; and to the European Hospital 149, of whom four died and 11 were invalided. There were three cases of blackwater fever, of which one proved fatal.

69. Outside Coomassie, the Sunyani Dispensary appears to treat the greatest number of patients, for 2,667 were under treatment as out-patients during the year.

At Obuasi, the number of out-patients was reported to be 2,375, at Kintampo 1,777, and at Ejura 745.

SANITATION.

COOMASSIE.

70. Within the limits of Coomassie there are large areas of unoccupied land the whole of which it is quite out of the question to keep clear. Special attention therefore was paid to open spaces within the town, to the Ridge, and to the neighbourhood of the Colonial Hospital. Over $3\frac{1}{2}$ million square yards were cleared of weeds, etc. by the sanitary labourers in the course of the year.

71. The conservancy system is not altogether satisfactory nor is it expeditious. The night soil is carried in buckets by prisoners to the outskirts of the town and there buried. It was hoped that motor lorries might be available before the end of the year to assist in this service, but owing to unforeseen circumstances it was not possible to give the scheme a trial. In any case, however, the motor lorry scheme is likely to be a good deal more expensive than the present system. House refuse is carried by headload and carts to the incinerators and there burnt. There are 17 incinerators in Coomassie, but the number is no longer adequate. An average of 49 headloads of bottles and tins were disposed of daily.

72. The drainage of Coomassie is likely to remain unsatisfactory until properly constructed drains and a water supply for flushing them can be instituted.

As the Medical Officer of Health reports "The earth drains and gutters, some of them resembling ravines are a constant source of trouble, and although every effort has been made to keep them in a sanitary condition by clearing them of weeds, rubbish, and filth generally and by the liberal use of disinfectants they still remain a constant nuisance to health."

The number of lineal yards of cement drains constructed during the year was 1,849. There is no difficulty in finding an outfall or in the lie of the land, but the cost of cement for the large extent of drainage will be a very heavy charge. A sum of £5,000 was spent on this service during the year. A large proportion of this sum was expended on the layout for trading houses and stores on the Old Asafu Quarter of the Native Town.

73. The number of the house inspections during the year was 17,255, and 826 householders were fined for having mosquito larvae on their premises.

74. The water supply is obtained from wells of the shallow type, and it proved sufficient for the needs of the inhabitants. During 1919, however, the drought caused some anxiety, and it was considered advisable to sink a new well in the neighbourhood of the Odum Wells in the Native Town and to add two storage tanks to the Prempeh Wells, the water supply for Europeans. A certain amount of concreting also was laid down in the area round the wells. The expenditure amounted to £780 and resulted in considerable improvement. A pipe-borne supply is at present under consideration, but the estimated cost reaches a formidable figure.

75. The rainfall approached the normal being 55.90 inches, as compared with the exceptionally low record of 37 inches in 1919.

GENERAL.

76. The Sanitation of Obuasi is in the competent hands of the Town Committee composed of Government Officials and the Mines Authorities. The most important work during the year was the completion of the surface drainage system, which confers a very great boon on the community.

77. In the villages sanitary conditions show considerable improvement. One Political Officer reports "some village Chiefs are so progressive in this respect as to have asked the District Commissioner to replan their villages, and are quite prepared to pull down houses, dig drains, etc. in the cause of sanitation." During a tour in the Western Province, I was very favourably impressed with the aspect of some of the Native villages. There was a broad main street planted each side with trees, and wide side streets. There was everywhere a genuine desire for improved villages, or if improvement was not possible for a new village to be planned by the District Commissioner. The Village Overseers, as a rule Natives from the Coast, superintend the layout and sanitation of villages, and seem to have done excellent work.

78. The number of persons vaccinated was 4,715, of these 1,824 were lost sight of, and among the remainder there were 2,002 successes and 889 failures. There was one case of smallpox recorded during the year.

79. The number of births registered in Coomassie was 63, 37 being males and 26 females. The deaths registered were 230 males and 97 females. It is clearly evident that a number of births are unregistered.

80. The ordinary expenditure exclusive of Personal Emoluments on sanitation in Ashanti amounted to £11,800, the lion's share being spent in Coomassie. The sum of about £9,000 in the nature of Extraordinary expenditure was spent on Sanitary Improvements, almost entirely in Coomassie and Obuasi.

PUBLIC WORKS.

EXTRAORDINARY.

81. The hopes that were entertained of an extensive programme of Public Works during the year were not destined to be completely fulfilled. In view, however, of the decline in revenue which set in towards the end of the year, the disappointment was not perhaps an unmixed evil, and the saving on the Estimates was a welcome one.

82. The Department was faced with difficulties in connection with staff and with a serious dearth of labour skilled and unskilled. At the beginning of the year the competition for the available supply of labour was particularly keen, and at Coomassie the position was not improved by the high price and comparative scarcity of foodstuffs.

83. As regards buildings, the main items of expenditure were on the alteration and addition to the Hospital £2,700, on four new bungalows on the Ridge £9,980, on the extension to the Post Office £2,800, and on quarters for the Agriculture labourers £4,500. These works were far advanced at the end of the year.

84. As regards roads the principal items were on the Chief Commissioner's programme £6,700, and on the road from Attebubu to Yegi and beyond £9,500, a portion of which is chargeable against the Northern Territories.

85. As regards sanitary improvements the chief items of expenditure were surface drainage, Coomassie £5,300, and the drainage scheme, Obuasi £2,000.

86. The amount provided in the Estimates and by Special Warrant for Extraordinary Works under the Public Works Department and the Chief Commissioner was :—

Buildings	..	..	..	..	£35,000
Sanitary Improvements	..	..	..	..	11,000
Roads	..	..	..	..	24,000
					<hr/>
					£70,000
					<hr/>

The actual expenditure was :—

Buildings	£24,700
Sanitary Improvements	8,700
Roads	16,700
	<hr/>
	£50,100
	<hr/>

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

87. The Transport Department serves both Ashanti and the Northern Territories. The Mechanical Section placed a great strain on the energy and optimism of the Officers who from time to time have been in charge of the Department.

88. At the beginning of the year there were a few old vehicles with which an intermittent service was maintained between Coomassie and Ejura. In July the service was reorganised and a relay service was established between Coomassie and Tamale with intermediate stations at Ejura, Prang, and Salaga. The traffic, however, far exceeded expectations and the position was further accentuated by the shortage of lorries. Stores accumulated at Headquarters and in the case of private loads the congestion meant considerable personal inconvenience.

89. The number of the lorries on charge at the end of the year was 48, but there had been little opportunity for thorough overhauling with the result that few of them were really efficient, and a considerable proportion not fit for the road. The average number of drivers was 30. They needed constant supervision which was rarely possible owing to the shortage of staff.

90. The number of carriers employed by the Department amounted to 200, distributed between Coomassie and Yegi.

91. The number of loads despatched from Coomassie by lorry was 8,052, and the number of loads coming into Coomassie by lorry from Ejura, 3,130, as against 5,751 and 1,743 in 1919. The number of loads despatched by railway from Coomassie was 1,300, an increase of 850 on the 1919 total. The number of head loads passing out of Coomassie was 1,450, a decrease of 330 compared with 1919. The number of cars sent out from Coomassie was 900, more than double the number in 1919.

92. The expenditure on mechanical transport for wages to drivers, fitters, etc. was £2,500, and for petrol, oil, etc. £4,170. The expenditure on the wages of overseers, carriers, etc. amounted to £5,750. A proportion of this expenditure, however, is debited to the Northern Territories Administration.

93. The Rest House at Coomassie is under the charge of the Transport Officer. On the ground floor is a dining room and a baggage store ; the former for the time being has been used as a store for the accumulation of loads awaiting transport to the Northern Territories. The first floor contains four bed rooms and the compound contains one kitchen. The accommodation

is quite inadequate for the number of officials now passing through Coomassie, and a large draft is made on the hospitality of the permanent residents. From time to time also one or more of the rooms have to be occupied as quarters for officers stationed in Coomassie.

ROADS.

94. 33 miles of motor road were constructed and opened for traffic during the year. The construction was carried out by Chiefs and people under the supervision of native road overseers responsible to, and paid by, the District Commissioner. Bridges and culverts were built by carpenters, masons, etc., and with materials paid for by the Government. On one section of road, a difficult stretch of 14 miles between Bompata and Kwahu Praso, valuable assistance was rendered by the Pioneer Company of the Gold Coast Regiment, in supervising construction and in the building of bridges and culverts. This section will be particularly valuable as a service road for the Accra-Coomassie Railway construction; it is also one of the last links to be completed in the motor road connections between Coomassie and Accra. There are also stretches of motor road constructed which are awaiting the erection of bridges before they can be brought into the motor road system.

95. Happily there is no reluctance on the part of the people to turn out on road construction in their own Divisions. Indeed, the difficulty is to curb their impatience and enthusiasm, else as, sometimes happens, they will launch themselves forth on some impossible project ending at their boundary in a wall of "bush." The unsuspecting Political Officer then finds that it is considered up to him to see that the road is carried on through neighbouring Divisions over hills and rivers to the ultimate goal, a cocoa buying centre. For it is not a natural instinct for pick and shovel work, nor sheer love of physical exertion, that inspires these efforts, but a very keen business sense of the fact that a motor road means a market or a higher price for their cocoa. To a population, moreover, of gregarious habits a motor road is a great boon, for it brings and keeps them in close touch with a larger world. Villages situated a mile or two from the main road will have feeder roads leading to them, or if natural obstacles prevail, the village will be transplanted from its old site and set astride the motor road.

96. Altogether there are 450 miles of motor road open for traffic in Ashanti. The Public Works Department are responsible for the maintenance of about 150 miles, the remainder being maintained by the Chiefs under the supervision of District Commissioners. The responsibility for maintenance is a heavy and harrassing one, for many of the roads are of the Pioneer type, fine weather roads with bridges and culverts built for light traffic only.

97. The development of trade, however, has put upon many of these roads a strain which they were not primarily intended to bear, and it is possible that regulations supplementary to those already existing will be necessary

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97. The development of trade, however, has put upon many of these roads a strain which they were not primarily intended to bear, and it is possible that regulations supplementary to those already existing will be necessary

to provide for the occasional suspension of traffic, and for the use of a light type of lorry on certain roads, until such time as these roads can be improved and the bridges and culverts strengthened, or replaced.

98. In addition to motor roads there is a large extent throughout Ashanti of hammock or cycle roads. These roads are maintained under the District Commissioner's road overseers by the inhabitants of the Division through which they run.

A sum of approximately £26,500 was spent on the construction and maintenance of roads, including motor roads and hammock roads. The fact must be faced that the increasing extent of motor roads in Ashanti means an accumulating liability in the future for maintenance, and it is to be hoped that the inhabitants will show for maintenance some of the enthusiasm they have now for construction.

99. The number of new motor licenses during the year was 46 cars, 210 lorries, 43 motor cycles, 121 trailers, and seven side cars. The total number of motor vehicles licensed is 122 cars, 440 lorries, 139 motor cycles, 308 trailers and 25 side cars.

100. On certain portions of the motor roads maintained by the Public Works Department a record of mileage during the last four months of the year was kept. On the stretch from Coomassie to Mampon, 35 miles, the car mileage during those four months was 173,264, and the number of motor vehicles 1,987, on the stretch from Mampon to Ejura, 30 miles, the car mileage was 28,050, and the number of motor vehicles 561, and from Ntonsu to Effidiasi, 15 miles, the car mileage was 35,740, and the number of motor vehicles 1,787. The road in respect of which these statistics were collected is part of the great North road to Tamale, as far as Ejura, the finest motor road in the country, and maintained in excellent condition.

RAILWAY.

101. The goods traffic outwards carried during the year from Ashanti was 43,470 tons, of which 28,000 tons were despatched from Coomassie.

The chief commodities were :—

Cocoa	..	..	..	37,500 tons.
Kola	..	..	..	3,000 tons.

The goods traffic inwards carried to Ashanti stations amounted to 30,700 tons, of which 18,500 tons were consigned to Coomassie. There was a considerable increase in the quantity of fish brought by rail into Ashanti, 1,500 tons, as against 819 tons in 1919, and the import of gin and other spirits rose from 467 tons to 560 tons.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

102. The construction of the Accra-Coomassie Railway was resumed in February, after some years suspension. Considerable difficulty was

experienced at first with regard to labour, but the slump in the cocoa industry very materially improved the labour conditions, and at the end of the year there was no lack of supply.

103. Clearing was extended for 23 miles, earthworks for 15 miles, and rails laid for a distance of $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Coomassie. Work has also been started on the new Coomassie Station, and on the station yards at Fumesa, Ejessu, and Boankra.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

104. The number of telegrams passing between Ashanti and the Gold Coast Colony and the Northern Territories was 67,066, an increase over the previous year of 13,745.

The number of cablegrams received and despatched amounted to 2,928 a decrease of over one thousand, compared with 1919, the decrease due probably to the slump in trade.

105. The number of Money Orders issued at Coomassie amounted to 1,229, as compared with 532 in 1919, the number paid was 489, as against 211 in 1919. At Obuasi the comparative figures were, Money Orders issued 765, as against 463 in 1919, and 536 paid, as against 67 in 1919. The total amount of money represented by the Orders issued was £25,980, as against £12,840 in 1919, and by the Orders paid £4,752, as against £4,248 in 1919. The increase in Money Orders issued has not been fully explained, but there is a large Parcel Post service and, moreover, a good deal of money must be remitted by Coast natives in Ashanti to their families in the Gold Coast Colony.

106. The value of Postage Stamps sold amounted to £24,245, as against £15,740 in 1919. The parcels posted numbered at Coomassie 2,952, and at Obuasi 393, the number of parcels delivered was at Coomassie 24,248, and at Obuasi 2,346. The figures for 1919 are not available.

107. The Post and Telegraph service was satisfactorily maintained throughout the year.

SAVINGS BANK.

108. The Post Office Savings Bank has branches at Coomassie and Obuasi. At Coomassie the deposits were 226, in Obuasi 297; the withdrawals in Coomassie 197 in Obuasi 182; the new accounts opened were 44 in Coomassie and 46 in Obuasi. There is a considerable decrease in the Savings Bank business at Coomassie, possibly some of it has been transferred to the two Banks.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

109. The year has been marked by the culmination into destoolment of disputes and dissensions in various important Divisions. In some cases the exasperation of the Sub-Chiefs and young men found vent in the infliction of serious harm on the person of the Head Chief. This was the case at Offinsu and Kumawu, where the Head Chiefs were severely mauled, and had to spend a month in hospital for the treatment of their injuries. At Bekwai

and Denjiasi, the outlying villages under their Chiefs and with their youngmen marshalled under their company captains invaded the Head Chiefs' towns. At Bekwai the Head Chief succeeded in making good his escape, and at Denjiasi the timely appearance of the Provincial Commissioner prevented any serious outrage. At Agogo and Aguna, violence was threatened at one time, but wiser counsels prevailed and the case was brought to the Government.

The Head Chiefs of these various Divisions were declared destooled, and at the same time heavy punishment was inflicted on those guilty of riot, and in the case of Offinsu, of arson, and of grievous bodily harm on the person of the Head Chiefs. At Wenchi, a determined attempt was made by the Queen Mother to destool the Head Chief. The attempt was frustrated but the Stool was carried away and concealed.

110. One common feature in these destoolments is the charge of mal-administration of Stool revenues. There is no proper system of dealing with these revenues, and most of the Stools are in debt, and have been so for years. In not a few instances the Stool is offered to a candidate who undertakes to defray the Stool debt. In the case of Kumawu, this procedure was followed, but the new Head Chief succeeded in persuading the Sub-Chief to sign a document making themselves personally responsible for the re-imbursement to him on his destoolment or death of his expenditure. He also proceeded to levy heavy fines and fees in order to recoup himself for his outlay. There are also charges that the Chief violates native custom; that he breaks the laws to which he assented on his enstoolment; that he does not add to the Stool property; and that he does not keep up appearances.

In the case of Bekwai, for instance, the "youngmen," that is to say the lower classes, those who were not Elders, complained that they were not consulted in the choice of the Head Chief, that they did not regard him as a credit to the Stool, that people did not respect him in Bekwai itself, or when he visited his villages, and to a man they refused to serve him. The Elders remarked that "One cannot be a Chief without subjects. If we support the Head Chief we shall be alone. The whole of the youngmen refuse to serve the Head Chief and we support them." A few days afterwards there followed the unanimous election of a new Head Chief; a youth of agreeable manners and presence, educated and a Christian, who is shaping well on the Stool.

On behalf of the Chiefs it must be said that they are elected to Stools which are often in debt, that their current expenses are heavy, especially in the way of entertainment, for they have to keep open house for their subjects, and they are expected to make a brave show on ceremonial occasions, while their subjects resent any demand upon them for pecuniary assistance.

111. As regards "Palavers" before the Chief Commissioner, there have been three important cases of paramountcy where the rights of the paramount Chief have been challenged or where the demand is to transfer allegiance to some other Chief or Head Chief, or to serve the Government direct. To allow repudiation or transfer of allegiance, however, at will and without just cause, will lead to disruption and chaos in the native organization. The decision given was —:

That transfer of allegiance will only be permitted in exceptional cases or when both parties agree.

That to paramount Chiefs are to be rendered such services and dues as are sanctioned by native custom, are reasonably demanded, and are not repugnant to natural justice, equity, and good conscience.

That Government will punish any contumacious refusal to perform such services.

112. An important case was decided in the Chief Commissioner's Court in connection with cocoa tribute. A Chief claimed the 1d. per tree tribute from a community of Ashantis who had been settled on his land for about 200 years, and who originally paid tribute of 12 yams, two pots of palm oil, and eight loads of snails. The cocoa tribute is claimable from "strangers." The Chief alleged that the settlers were "strangers" and he was entitled to 1d. per tree, which would have amounted to £2,000, though he was prepared to accept less. It was held that the settlers could not be regarded as strangers." "The cocoa industry is the result of individual toil, individual enterprise, individual energy. Cocoa is not found wild in the bush like rubber, timber, and game, nor is it found already in the earth like minerals. Land has to be cleared, seeds or cuttings obtained and planted, the farm has to be cared for, the crop picked and prepared and then transported. All the work is done by the farmer himself and his family, or at his own sole expense."

"It is neither natural justice nor good faith that they should now be called upon to pay a heavy tax merely on the ground that by their own energy and enterprise they are making valuable use of land which has been in their occupation all these years."

113. The original idea, as I understand it, was that cocoa tribute should be levied from individual strangers such as Mendis, ex-labourers, or artisans from the mines, etc., who wished to settle in Ashanti. Also apparently from members of other Ashanti tribes who chose to migrate into or farm in another Chief's Division. It was not intended that the institution of tribute should lead to a revision of long standing customary relations between various communities.

114. It has to be remembered that on the average in a well cared for, well planted cocoa farm belonging to the native farmer the yield per tree is about 2lbs. per annum. The tribute of one penny per tree is therefore $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. or 2s. 6d. per load of 60 lbs. The tribute is a heavy handicap for the stranger, and it tends to preserve land and cocoa farming in the hands of the existing occupiers of the lands. The extension of the tribute in the manner attempted by some of the Chiefs would be a serious matter for the cocoa industry and would tend to the creation of a landlord class with a large rent roll, a feature which is foreign to the native systems of land tenure.

115. Generally, Native Affairs in Ashanti have reached a stage of transition. A new generation which has grown up under the British Administration of Ashanti is coming to the fore. *Prima facie* also native institutions which suited the environment of the old order are hardly likely to be adapted as they stand to the radically changed and changing conditions of the present. A strong Central Government super-imposed upon the tribal administration must affect adversely the power and prestige of the Chiefs, and allegiance is apt to be transferred from the Chiefs to the Government. This accounts to some extent for the paramountcy cases, Chiefs desiring to serve the Government direct rather than through a paramount Chief. Communications also break down the isolation, and possibly also, in the long run the jealousy and animosity of the various tribes, at any rate improved communications extend the horizon beyond the village or the tribe. The great factors in modern progress—Trade, Education, Christianity,—all tend to enhance the importance of the individual, and thus to inculcate a sense of the equity of personal reward, of private property, and of the right of bequest.

116. The frequent destoolments, therefore, judged in the light of the changes that are taking place are rather a symptom of the vitality than of the decay of native institutions. There are no lack of candidates for the Stools, and if rumour is true there is no lack of intrigue and bribery to secure election. Further, as already stated, among the charges in cases of destoolment are often charges of violation of native custom of which the “youngmen” pose as the jealous guardians. What seems greatly needed is the decent administration of Stool revenue, and a settled system of jurisdiction. These are reforms which it is hoped can be provided in a native jurisdiction Ordinance now under contemplation, and which the Chiefs are anxious to see introduced. It must be remembered also that “the youngmen” are not very dutiful subjects.

Bowdich, writing in 1817, when Ashanti was at the zenith of its power described “the lower orders of the people” as “ungrateful, insolent and licentious,” and he stated that the King of Ashanti confided to him his opinion that they were “the worst people in existence” adding however, as he called to mind his hereditary enemies “except the Fantees,” and he went on to say that “they were not comparable with many of their inland neighbours.” An opinion which, perhaps, some of the Chiefs of the present day would not hesitate to endorse.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CATTLE.

117. The number of cattle imported into Ashanti is estimated at 15,400. a considerable decrease on the previous year's return owing to the outbreak of rinderpest in the French country north of the Northern Territories. The number imported into Coomassie was 5,150, a decrease of 1,760. The average price per head was £15. In the Coomassie Abattoir, 1,916 head of cattle and 2,464 sheep and goats were slaughtered for local consumption.

The number of cattle exported from Coomassie by rail was 4,235 and of sheep and goats 2,000. 27 horses were brought into Coomassie. The natives seem to be of opinion that the clearings round the town have improved the health of their horses.

POPULATION.

118. The returns of the Census taken in April, 1921, are available at the time of writing this report. The population of Ashanti is returned as 420,000, as against 287,814 at the last Census.

COOMASSIE.

119. The population of Coomassie at the recent Census was returned at 20,000. It was anticipated that the number would be higher as an informal Census eighteen months before reckoned the population at 32,000. The population of the Coomassie District is, however, 146,000 nearly equal to that of the Central Province at the last Census which included the Districts of Coomassie, Ashanti-Akim, and Ejura.

120. The rents collected during the year amounted to £6,000, an increase of £1,500 on the rents payable in the previous year. The number of new leases granted in the town and Zongo was 207, as against 105 in 1919. Building permits to the number of 221 were issued, as against 103 in 1919.

121. At present the administration of Coomassie is in the hands of the Police Magistrate, already fully occupied with Court work. He is assisted by a Town Clerk and a Town Surveyor, both native officials.

122. The Government is ground landlord of all land within the town limits, i.e., within a radius of one mile and a half from the Fort, and the land is leased at various rentals for terms ranging from seven to 99 years. In view of the growth of Coomassie, which is likely to be rapid and continuous the time has come for setting up some new machinery for its administration, and the matter is now engaging the attention of the Government.

123. The town is fortunate in having ample building land, and there should be no serious difficulties in planning the layout of new quarters. It should be possible to establish without great expense; public gardens and recreation grounds. The rising generation are learning to play cricket, football, and tennis, but at present there are no public grounds where these games can be enjoyed. It should be possible also to lay out a quarter for residents who are in a position to build good class houses, and who would take in water and electric light when a water supply and electric lighting have become realities. In view also of the fact that trees, shrubs, and flowers seem to flourish in Coomassie, it may not be too much to hope that the residents in the new quarters of the town will be encouraged to plant gardens so that the residential areas of Coomassie, at any rate, may offer something more to the eye than an arid though ordered collection of dwellings. All this, however, is not work which can be adequately carried out or pushed on in moments snatched from office or Court work.

124. For the European community which at the recent Census taken during the trade slump numbered 219, an excellent residential quarters is provided on the Ridge. At this moment, however, lack of funds has suspended building operations.

125. On the Ridge also there is ample space for a public garden and recreation grounds, and it is to be hoped that at an early date it will be possible to start laying them out. At the present moment there is in Coomassie one cricket pitch for forty or fifty European cricketers; indeed, it is the only cricket pitch for the cricketing community European or Native. In Coomassie there are no public tennis courts, and last but not least, there is no Club, that is to say no common meeting place for European residents. Here again lack of funds has held up, for a short while only it is hoped, the development of the amenities of the station.

SURVEYS.

126. The Survey Department is now established in Ashanti, and the topographical survey party should reach Ashanti towards the end of the 1921-1922 season. Too much stress cannot be laid on the fact that one of the greatest boons that can be conferred on the inhabitants is a survey of this country, which will enable tribal boundaries to be finally determined, and facilitate the settlement of land disputes. The Chiefs are eagerly awaiting the time when maps of their tribal lands will be available.

EMPLOYMENT FOR EUROPEANS.

127. There is no scope for the employment of Europeans except for those engaged at home.

OCCURRENCES.

128. The Governor visited Coomassie in April, and in May installed Mr. C. H. Harper, O.B.E., as Chief Commissioner in the place of Sir Francis Fuller, K.B.E.

129. At the end of the year Mr. A. J. Philbrick, Senior Provincial Commissioner of Ashanti was appointed Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories in succession to Captain Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O.

CONSTITUTION OF ASHANTI.

130. The Ashanti Order in Council, 1901, after recording that the territories heretofore known as Ashanti had been conquered by His Majesty's Forces declared that Ashanti shall be annexed to and form part of His Majesty's Dominions, Ashanti thus became a Colony. The Governor of the Gold Coast Colony is empowered to exercise all powers and jurisdictions of the Crown in Ashanti. In the absence of the Governor from Ashanti, the Chief Commissioner has certain powers of pardon.

131. There is neither Legislative Council nor Executive Council for Ashanti. Laws are enacted by the Governor and the rule-making power generally delegated to Executive Councils is as a rule in the hands of the Chief Commissioner, subject to the Governor's approval. The disciplinary powers

also over officials usually exercised by Executive Councils are in the absence of the Governor from Ashanti entrusted to the Chief Commissioner, assisted by an officer with legal qualifications, who shall be appointed by the Governor. Suspension by the Chief Commissioner requires confirmation by the Governor, and in case of suspension or other punishment a full report of the proceedings has to be transmitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation or disallowance or other directions thereon.

C. H. HARPER,

Chief Commissioner, Ashanti.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1070	British Honduras	1919
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	"
1094	Weihaiwei	"
1095	St. Vincent	1920
1096	Nyasaland	"
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seed, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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No. 1108.

HONGKONG.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(ABRIDGED.)

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1071.)



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No. 1108.

HONGKONG.**ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.**

PREFACE.

Hongkong is situated off the south-eastern coast of China between $22^{\circ} 9'$ and $22^{\circ} 17'$ N. latitude and $114^{\circ} 5'$ and $114^{\circ} 18'$ E. longitude. The island is an irregular ridge, stretching nearly east and west; its peaks rising to the height of nearly 2,000 feet above the sea level. Its length is about 11 miles, its breadth from 2 to 5 miles, its area about 32 square miles.

In 1898 an extension of Hongkong territory was agreed to by an area adjacent to British Kowloon, including Mirs Bay and Deep Bay, being leased for 99 years.

The Colony, then a desolate island, sparsely inhabited by fishermen, was ceded to Great Britain in January, 1841; the cession was confirmed by the Treaty of Nankin in August, 1842; and the charter bears date 5th April, 1843. The additions subsequently obtained on the mainland have been noted above.

Trade increased with the opening up of China to foreign trade. Large local banking, dock, steamboat, and insurance companies were established between 1865 and 1872, and the trade was greatly increased by the opening of the Suez Canal.

The city is the depôt for an incessant flow of Chinese emigration and immigration; excluding China ports.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

During the early part of the year trade was brisk and large profits were realised all round, owing principally to the relatively high sterling rates at which imports were laid down. A serious slump, however, followed later in the year. As a result of the prosperity of trade in 1919, many new firms had been established, especially in the piece goods business. By these enormous orders were placed in England and America during 1919. Owing chiefly to labour conditions, deliveries were delayed, with the result that many orders placed early in 1919 were not delivered until the Autumn of 1920. The result was an overstocked market, which, with a decline in prices, caused by the heavy fall in the price of cotton, and a drop of 50 per cent. in the value of the dollar compared with the rates prevailing when the orders were placed in 1919, led to a very serious financial position.

The rice business of the colony also passed through a severe crisis during the year, due to a great extent to the failure of certain San Francisco buyers to honour their contracts, on the ground that buyers in Cuba, as a result of a considerable amount of overbuying, were repudiating their contracts.

The trade position was further embarrassed by the unrest in the neighbouring provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi. The lawlessness which has, unfortunately, so long been a feature of the situation, and which during 1919 was chiefly due to the presence throughout the province of the unpaid and uncontrolled soldiery of both factions, continued throughout the year to the grave detriment of trade in the two provinces.

During the early portion of the year serious inconvenience was caused to business firms by the irregular arrivals of English mails. This was due to failure on several occasions to make the steamer connection at Nagapatam. The position was remedied later in the year by the provision of more fast vessels on the London-Bombay service and by an arrangement with the Straits Settlements Postal Administration for Hongkong letter mails to be sent by rail from Penang to Singapore.

The year was marked by a number of strikes among the workmen in various trades in the Colony. The most serious was the Fitters' strike in April, which was, however, amicably settled within 16 days. Other strikes were those of the Blackwood Furniture makers and the Chinese tailors' assistants.

A new valuation of the Colony was made during the year, by which the rateable value was increased from \$17,408,959 to \$18,696,660, an addition of 7·40 per cent.

I.—FINANCES.

The revenue for the year amounted to \$14,689,672 being \$625,128 less than the estimate and \$1,835,303 less than the revenue for the previous year.

Compared with the returns for 1919 there were increases under every head with the exception of Licences and Interest.

The expenditure amounted to a total of \$14,489,594 inclusive of a sum of \$2,555,878 spent on Public Works Extraordinary.

The total expenditure brought to account amounted to \$14,489,594 being \$396,879 less than the estimate, and \$3,426,331 less than the expenditure in 1919. Compared with the estimates there were increases under 15 heads as against 9 heads where there were decreases. The excess amounting to \$742,979 under Miscellaneous Services was due to the grant of \$1,000,000 to Kongkong University and \$378,104 in the case of the Police and Prison Departments due to increase of staff and revision of salaries. Military expenditure was less than the estimate by \$168,752 on account of the revenue for 1919 having been over-estimated. The item Charitable Services was responsible for an excess over the estimates of \$104,339 due to a grant of \$100,000 to the North China Famine Relief Fund. Decreases were mostly due to the sterling value of the dollar being higher than that on which the estimates were based, and to certain Public Works for which provision had been made not being proceeded with.

The balance to the credit on the year's working was \$200,078 and the assets and liabilities account showed on the 31st December a credit balance of \$4,490,266.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the five years 1916-1920 :—

	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	\$	\$
1916	13,833,387	11,079,915
1917	15,058,105	14,090,828
1918	18,665,248	16,252,172
1919	16,524,975	17,915,925
1920	14,689,672	14,489,594

The amount of the consolidated loan stands at £1,485,733. Against this there is at credit of the Sinking Fund a sum of £338,687. The Local Loan under Ordinance No. 12 of 1916 amounts to \$3,000,000 and there are the sums of \$438,203 and £84,751 at credit of the Sinking Fund.

During the period 1911-1920 the assessment of the whole Colony has risen from \$11,161,390 to \$17,408,959, an increase in rateable value of \$6,247,569.

The circulation on the 31st December of notes of the three Banks having authorised issues was as follows :—

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation,	\$26,397,580
Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China,	10,061,863
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited,	1,000,009
	<u>\$37,459,452</u>

The currency of the Colony consists, in addition to the notes of these Banks, of British, Hongkong, and Mexican Dollars and of subsidiary coin, which continued at par throughout the year.

The total issue of subsidiary coins less those demonetized now amounts to \$20,764,370 nominal value, and they were up to the year 1905 readily absorbed at par, large quantities being taken by the neighbouring provinces of China. During 1916 ten cent pieces of the face value of \$5,028,000 were shipped to Calcutta for purposes of demonetization. The discount which prevailed between 1905 and 1916 may be attributed to the immense quantity of similar coin which was minted at Canton as well as to the amount of Hongkong coin minted largely in excess of the needs of the Colony by itself. In 1905 the Hongkong Government ceased to issue any subsidiary coin and in 1906 it began a policy of demonetising all its subsidiary coin received as revenue. This policy was continuously followed till 1918 except during a brief period in 1911. Coin to the face value of \$23,235,459 has thus been redeemed. The total issue by the Hongkong Government was of the face value of about \$44,000,000.

II.—SHIPPING AND TRADE, INDUSTRIES, FISHERIES, AGRICULTURE, AND LAND.

(a.)—SHIPPING.

The total of the Shipping entering and clearing at Ports in the Colony during the year 1920 amounted to 683,497 vessels of 40,122,527 tons, which, compared with the figures for 1919, shows an increase of 34,329 vessels, with an increase of 4,507,358 tons.

Of the above, 43,364 vessels of 24,194,022 tons were engaged in Foreign Trade, as compared with 41,985 vessels of 21,072,129 tons in 1919, and were distributed as follows:—

	1919. Numbers.	1920. Numbers.	1919. Tonnage.	1920. Tonnage.
	%	%	%	%
British Ocean-going Ships ..	9.2	9.6	32.4	34.5
Foreign Ocean-going Ships ..	12.6	12.5	36.2	38.1
British River Steamers ..	13.2	11.9	15.4	13.5
Foreign River Steamers ..	3.8	4.0	2.9	2.4
Steam Launches (under 60 tons) ..	11.9	11.6	0.8	0.7
Trading Junks ..	49.3	50.4	12.3	10.8
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

N.B.—The movements of Fishing Junks are not included in this Table.

Of vessels of European construction, 4,807 Ocean Steamers, 3,441 River Steamers, and 2,498 Steamships not exceeding 60 tons entered during the year, giving a daily average of 29.4 ships, as compared with 29.1 in 1919 and 27.3 in 1918.

The average tonnage of individual Ocean Vessels entering the Port has increased from 1,583.1 tons to 1,831.0 tons, that of British ships has increased from 1,722.6 tons to 2,002.3 tons, while that of Foreign ships has also increased from 1,449.2 tons to 1,699.2 tons.

The average tonnage of individual River Steamers entering during the year has decreased from 448.8 tons to 425.8 tons.

That of British River Steamers has decreased from 529.8 tons to 516.1 tons, and that of Foreign River Steamers has decreased from 336.6 tons to 324.3 tons.

There was an increase in British Ocean-going shipping of 308 ships or 7.9 per cent. and an increase of 1,509,060 tons or 22.0 per cent.

This is due to vessels which were under Government control being released, and to newly-built ships and Enemy ships which were sold or transferred to British ship-owners being put on the Eastern trade.

British River Steamers have decreased by 364 ships with an increase in tonnage of 3,204 tons or 6.6 per cent. in numbers and 0.1 per cent. in tonnage.

The decrease in ships is due to the s.s. "Chuen Chow" being laid up during the latter part of the year and to the s.s. "Hoi Ming" being transferred to the Chinese flag. The decrease in tonnage is due to the alteration in tonnage of the s.s. "Fatshan," "Kinshan" and "Heungshan."

Foreign Ocean-going vessels have increased by 144 ships with an increase of 1,597,729 tons or 2·7 per cent. in numbers and 20·9 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to the large amount of American vessels frequenting the port. Enemy vessels being sold or transferred to Foreign ship-owners and also to several newly-built Chinese and Norwegian vessels being put on the Coastal trade.

Foreign River Steamers show an increase of 142 ships with a decrease in tonnage of 14,409 tons or 8·9 per cent. in numbers and 2·4 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to the s.s. "Hoi Ming," formerly British-owned, being transferred to the Chinese flag being now named the s.s. "Tung Sing," also to two newly-built steamers, the s.s. "Leung Kwong" and "Kong Chow," being put on the West River run.

The decrease in tonnage is due to the s.s. "Tin Sing" being seized by the Cantonese Government and a number of Chinese vessels being unable to run frequently owing to Hostilities in the West River waters.

In steamships not exceeding 60 tons employed in Foreign Trade, there is a decrease of 7 ships with an increase in tonnage of 5,559 tons or 0·1 per cent. in numbers and 3·4 per cent. in tonnage. The increase is most prominent in vessels trading to Macao due to the Steam-launches "Hau Hoi 1" and "On Chai" running regularly for the best part of the year.

Junks in Foreign Trade show an increase of 1,156 vessels and an increase of 20,750 tons or 5·6 per cent. in numbers and 0·8 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to more junks of smaller tonnage visiting this Port.

In Local Trade, (*i.e.*, between places within the waters of the Colony) there is an increase in Steam-launches of 32,880 and an increase of 1,270,246 tons or 5·6 per cent. in numbers and 9·5 per cent. in tonnage.

This is due to the decreasing cost of coal; Launches which had been laid up, were again employed.

Junks in Local Trade show an increase of 70 vessels and an increase of 115,219 tons or 0·3 per cent. in numbers and 9·8 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to a great number of junks being employed on reclamation work.

TRADE.

Detailed and accurate statistics of imports and exports are now collected and published by the Imports and Exports Department.

IMPORTS.

The number and tonnage of ships of European type construction carrying cargo for import and transit, compared with 1919, were as follows:—

	1919		1920.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steamers	4,571	8,587,683	4,897	8,891,623	326	303,940	—	—
River Steamers	3,889	1,271,783	3,441	1,118,664	—	—	169	—
Sailing Vessels	4	8,886	—	—	—	—	4	5,356
Total	8,464	9,868,352	8,338	10,010,287	326	1,142,315	113	5,356
Net Increase	—	—	—	—	122	1,366,730	—	—

EXPORTS.

The corresponding figures relating to ships of European type of construction shipping bunker coal are as follows :—

	1919.		1920.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steamers	4,560	7,219,802	4,784	8,773,016	224	1,553,214	—	—
River Steamers ..	3,551	1,928,221	3,438	1,916,191	—	—	13	12,030
Sailing Vessels ..	4	5,356	—	—	—	—	4	5,356
Total ..	8,115	9,153,379	8,115	10,689,207	224	1,553,214	17	17,386
Net Increase ..					207	1,535,828	—	—

	1919.		1920.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Bunker Coal.	No.	Bunker Coal.	No.	Bunker Coal.	No.	Bunker Coal.
Steamers	4,560	850,386	4,784	464,707	224	—	—	385,679
River Steamers ..	3,551	53,439	3,438	63,486	—	10,047	13	—
Total ..	8,111	903,825	8,222	528,193	224	10,047	13	385,679
Net Increase ..					211	—	—	375,632

The River Trade, compared with 1919, is shown in the following Table :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Passengers.
	Tons.	Tons.	
1919	323,536	328,369	1,373,947
1920	345,514	317,512	1,686,306

The following Table shows the Junk Trade of the Colony for the years 1919 and 1920 :—

Imported 569,888 tons as under :—

					<i>Tons.</i>
Cattle, 1,914 head .. .. .	..	..	..	..	224
Swine, 18,397 head .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,082
General .. .. .	..	..	..	..	547,747
Earth and Stones .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20,835
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	..	<u>569,888</u>

Exported 709,761 tons as under :—

	<i>Tons.</i>
Kerosine, 1,128,477 cases	40,604
Rice and Padi	59,769
Coal	236,799
General	372,589
Total	<u>709,761</u>

OPIUM.

Five hundred and twelve and a half (512½) chests of Persian Opium and 112 chests of Turkish Opium were imported during the year ; 2 chests of Persian Opium were exported to London, 510½ chests to Formosa, and 109 chests of Turkish Opium to Formosa ; 3 chests used for Medical purposes by A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., of Hongkong.

Nine hundred and one (901) chests of uncertificated Indian Opium were imported ; 576 chests for the Macao Opium Farmer, of which 226 chests exported by Tai Seng, the Old Farmer, and 350 chests by Lee Sing, the New Farmer, from July to December, 1920 ; 100 chests for Kobe ; and the remaining 225 chests for the Government Opium Monopoly.

The table below shows the total imports and exports since 1912 :—

	1920. Chests.	1919. Chests.	1918. Chests.	1917. Chests.	1916. Chests.	1915. Chests.	1914. Chests.	1913. Chests.	1912. Chests.
Stock in hand on 1st January.	329	253	799½	977½	1,303½	2,256½	4,580½	5,560	7,587
Imported during the year.	1,525½	1,290	1,259	1,657	1,706	1,873	3,059½	9,108½	12,361½
Total ..	<u>1,854½</u>	<u>1,543</u>	<u>2,058½</u>	<u>2,634½</u>	<u>3,009½</u>	<u>4,129½</u>	<u>7,640</u>	<u>14,668½</u>	<u>19,948½</u>
Boiled by Opium Farmer.	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	667	1,113
Boiled by Government.	225	377	539	352	365	340	413	—	—
Spurious Opium destroyed.	—	—	1	13	—	17	19	—	2
Used locally ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing or stolen	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	2	9
Exported during the year.	1,297½	837	1,265½	1,469	1,667	2,469	4,911½	9,419	13,264½
Total ..	<u>1,525½</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>1,805½</u>	<u>1,835</u>	<u>2,032</u>	<u>2,826</u>	<u>5,383½</u>	<u>10,088</u>	<u>14,388½</u>
Stock remaining on 31st December	329,	329	253	799½	977½	1,303½	2,256½	4,580½	5,560

Emigration and Immigration.

One hundred and five thousand two hundred and fifty-eight (105,258) emigrants left Hongkong for various places during the year 1920, (59,969 in 1919). Of these, 70,234 were carried in British ships and 35,024 in Foreign ships.

One hundred and twenty-two thousand four hundred and thirty-eight (122,438) returning emigrants were reported to have been brought to Hongkong from the several places to which they had emigrated either from this Colony or from Coast Ports, as against 136,020 in 1919. Of these, 87,766 arrived in British ships and 34,672 in Foreign ships.

(b).—INDUSTRIES.

(i).—Under European Management.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The figures are as follows for the year:—

Hickong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	5	vessels of 37,935 gross tons and 11,500 I.H.P.
Taikeo Dockyard and Eng. Co., Ltd.	5	" 13,660 " " 9,700 "
W. S. Bailey & Co., Ltd.	22	" 1,197 " " 1,336 "
Kwong Hip Lung Co., Ltd.	1	" 50 " " — "
Kwong Fat & Co.	1	" 356 " " 30 "
Kwong Sang Loong	1	" 1,374 " " 85 "
Hong Fat	2	" 7 " " 48 "
A King	25	" 77 " " 276 "
Total	62	vessels of 54,656 gross tons and 22,975 I.H.P.

Sugar Refineries.—1920 was a phenomenal year. Prices of Raw Sugar fluctuated but very little during the first few months of the year, but in April news was received of a very large reduction in the estimate of the Cuban Crop, which caused a rapid rise in prices the world over, raws in Java rising from 40 to 75 Guilders per picul between April and May, whilst Cubans which were quoted at about 9 cents previous to the revised estimate reached over 21 cents. After large quantities of Sugar had passed hands at these exceptional rates a slump took place, which was largely brought about by the over-anxiety of America to fill her shortages and prices fell away equally rapidly, the actual difference between the highest and lowest prices touched between the middle of May and December being 61 Guilders a picul.

The Refined markets follow the upward trend of prices to a certain extent in April and May and satisfactory sales were made to India, America and Europe, both for prompt and forward deliveries.

Demand from China was consistent throughout the year but for the first six months prices were disappointing.

Yarn.—The Yarn trade during 1920 was very unsatisfactory and resulted in severe losses to native dealers, some of the smaller ones being forced to close down.

Trade was brisk until March but the Japanese financial crisis and the raising of the embargo on Japanese Yarn exports brought down prices with a run and so far there has not been any reasonable reaction from this collapse.

The total quantity of Indian Yarn imported into the Colony during the Year amounted to 120,000 bales and 17,000 bales were brought forward from the previous year.

Clearances totalled 112,000 bales, leaving a carry-over of 25,000 bales.

Cotton.—Middling American Cotton in Liverpool was quoted in January at 28/50d. for spot, it declined to 27/38d. at the end of January, but then rose until on the 18th February it reached the phenomenal height of 31/16d. It has since gradually fallen away, with an occasional setback, to 8/65d. at the end of the year (lowest since August, 1916).

The year opened with Exchange at 4/11½ T/T. It advanced rapidly and reached its topmost height of 6/2 T/T. on 10th February. It then reacted and declined steadily with one or two small setbacks until the close of the year, when T/Ts. on London were quoted at 3/2.

Rope-Making, 1920.—The demand for Manila Cordage was not so good and the total turnover showed a falling-off from that of the previous twelve months. The high rate of exchange which ruled throughout the year adversely affected our business with gold standard countries to a large extent.

Cement Manufacture.—Although exchange ruled very high throughout the year, there developed a very good demand from all markets and prices rose all round. The turnover was a record one.

(ii.)—*Under Chinese Management.*

Tin.—During the year under review the volume of business transacted was large (about twice that of 1919) but, although the sterling price was as high as £421 10s. in the early part of the year and as low as £205 10s. towards the close, there was little variation in local prices over the whole year owing entirely to the vagaries in exchange.

Imports and Exports for the year, in round figures, were :—

<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
From Straits	300 Tons.	To United Kingdom	3,600 Tons.
„ China.....	100 „	„ United States...	5,300 „
„ Neth. Indies ..	300 „	„ Sundry Ports ..	300 „
„ Yunnan.....	10,100 „	„ China.....	2,900 „
„ Kwangsi	400 „	„ Japan	1,500 „
	<u>11,200 Tons.</u>		<u>13,600 Tons.</u>

Rattan and Fibre Furniture.—In sympathy with practically all lines, 1920 was a bad year for these commodities. The value of Rattan and Fibre Furniture exported was about half of 1919. Seagrass declined to about the same percentage whilst Rattan core was worse, about 25 per cent. of 1919.

Native Tobacco.—Only a very small business was transacted during 1920, with declining prices.

Leather and Hides.—These showed a considerable decline; most dealers have lost money and are holding fairly large stocks.

Ginger and Preserves.—This trade was one of the worst during 1920; exports decreased about 70 per cent. in comparison with 1919.

Soy.—Only a small business was done and in small lots to regular centres.

Paper.—Those interested in this line and who had stocks had a good year as prices rose about 25 per cent. in the beginning of this year, due to non-arrival of many orders. During the latter part of the year the market was plentifully stocked at lower prices, but, owing to exchange, local prices remained at the same high level with very little business.

Vermilion.—Very little done and much less than 1919.

Lard.—The anticipated demand for 1920 did not materialise and business was bad—a great falling-off compared with 1919, although, at one time, the trade looked like reviving owing to heavy purchase from a new source.

Tinned Goods.—Trade was not as good as 1919.

Shamshoo and Vinegar.—The same remarks as above apply.

Knitted Vests and Socks.—These industries are progressing and with the addition of improved machinery will, in time, practically control the Eastern trade. A good business, considering the general slackness, was done; practically the same as in 1919 but the value for 1920 was about \$2,500,000 as compared with \$3,000,000 in 1919, the shrinkage being due to lower values.

(c.)—FISHERIES.

A considerable proportion of the boat population of Hongkong supports itself by deep-sea fishing, in which pursuit a large number of junks are engaged. The villages of Aberdeen, Stanley, Shaukiwan, and also many in the New Territories, are largely dependent upon this industry for their prosperity. Fresh water fish is imported from Canton and the West River. There are oyster beds of considerable value in Deep Bay.

(d.)—LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The net amount of premium received from sales of Crown Land and Pier Rights for the year 1920 was \$322,615.02 an increase of \$72,255 on the preceding year and \$89,070 more than the average for the past five years.

The principal items were \$37,500 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1402, \$33,507 for extensions to Kowloon Marine Lots Nos. 26 and 28, \$34,700 for Inland Lot No. 2302 and \$21,000 for Inland Lot No. 2278.

In the New Territories the net amount received for premium on sales of land was \$230,449.05 the principal item being \$150,660 for New Kowloon Marine Lots Nos. 6 and 7. New Kowloon Marine Lot No. 8 was sold for \$51,418 so that the figure for land sales in this part of the Colony was abnormal being over \$218,000 in excess of the preceding year.

The number of Deeds registered in the Land Office was 3,405 and exceeded the total of any previous year by 384, the aggregate consideration set out in deeds registered was \$67,493,394 as against \$60,152,735.07 in 1919.

The Government resumed a large number of small areas for street improvements in the course of the year and Farm Lots Nos. 8, 22, 40 and 50 were surrendered, new areas being sold in lieu thereof for building purposes.

Development at Shamshuipo continues, sixty-one new lots were placed on the Rent Rolls in the course of the year.

The total area of land sold or granted during the year was 277a. 0r. 6 $\frac{2}{5}$ p. of which 207a. 3r. 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. were dealt with by the District Officers. The total area of land resumed was 75a. 2r. 30 $\frac{3}{5}$ p.

In the New Territories the demand for land was steady.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Seventeen (17) Ordinances were passed during 1920 of which seven were amendments of previous Ordinances.

The most important of these Ordinances were—

The Treaty of Peace Order, 1919 (No. 3).

The Treaty of Peace (Amendment) Order, 1920 (No. 15).

The Treaty of Peace (Austria) Order 1920 (No. 16).

The Treaty of Peace (Bulgaria) Order, 1920 (No. 17).

These Ordinances were for the purpose of modifying certain provisions of the various Orders in Council, and of adapting the provisions of the said Orders to the circumstances of the Colony.

The Foreign Corporations (Execution of Instruments under Seal) (No. 1)—a measure for validating all instruments which have been executed, or will be executed by the agent of a foreign corporation whose authority is not required to be under seal according to the laws of the State under which such corporation is incorporated.

The Volunteer (No. 2)—the object being to provide for the establishment of a new Volunteer Force to take the place of the existing Volunteer Corps and Volunteer Reserve.

The Societies (No. 8)—The object of this Ordinance was to repeal the Societies Ordinance, 1911, which had not proved satisfactory in practice, and to substitute a simpler system based on the Triad and Unlawful Societies Ordinance, 1887.

The Plants (No. 11)—the object of which is to enable the Governor in Council to make regulations for protecting trees, shrubs, and other plants from destruction, injury or removal. Its primary object was to protect the plant known as "Azalea."

The Criminal Intimidation (No. 13)—This enactment was passed with a view to restrain a person from using threats of violence towards another person.

IV.—EDUCATION.

No important changes have taken place in the Education Department during the year under review. The Staff has been depleted by causes due to the War, but the deficiency has been met in part by the appointment of Mistresses resident in the Colony.

The total number of pupils at schools in the Colony, excluding the Police School and the uncontrolled schools in the New Territories, are :—

	Number of Pupils.		Total.
	English Schools.	Vernacular Schools.	
Government Schools	2,929	—	2,929
Military Schools	145	—	145
Excluded Private Schools ..	121	26	147
Grant Schools	2,330	3,409	5,739
Controlled Private Schools ..	3,679	13,719	17,398
Controlled Private Schools, New Territories.	—	1,761	1,761
Technical Institute	588	—	588
Total	9,792	18,915	28,707

The most important schools, apart from the excluded schools, are *Queen's College* for Chinese, four *District Schools* its feeders, and the *Belilios Public School* for Chinese girls. There is an *Indian*

School of growing importance now housed in a new building presented to the Colony by Sir Ellis Kadoorie. *Kowloon School* and *Victoria School* for children of British parentage have an average attendance of 124. There is also a school for the children of the Peak District with an average attendance of 49. The *Diocesan School and Orphanage* and *St. Joseph's College* are important boys' schools in receipt of an annual grant. The *Italian, French*, and *St. Mary's Convents*, and the *Diocesan Girls' School*, are the most important of the English Grant Schools for girls.

The Hongkong Technical Institute affords an opportunity for higher education of students who have left school. Instruction was given in 1920 in Mathematics, Machine Drawing, Architectural Design, and Building Construction; in Chemistry and Physics; in Commercial English, Logic, and Political Economy; and in French, Shorthand, and Book-keeping. Classes in Sanitation (Public Hygiene) are also held, the examinations being conducted under the auspices of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London. Classes for Men and Women Teachers, both "English" and "Vernacular" are a feature of the Institute.

The Lecturers are recruited from the members of the Medical and Educational faculties of the Colony, and from the Department of Public Works, and receive fees for their services. The Institute is furnished with a well equipped Chemical Laboratory and excellent Physical apparatus.

The University of Hongkong is an institution that arose from the joint enterprise of British and Chinese subscribers. It was founded with funds representing about equal proportions of Chinese and British money.

At the end of the year the number of students was 225, 77 of whom were taking the Engineering Course, 75 Medicine, and 73 Arts. While most of the students have studied in Hongkong schools, a number come from Canton, the Coast Ports of China, the Straits Settlements, Siam, and Japan. There are numerous scholarships, including those founded in honour of King Edward VII, the President of the Republic of China, and by various Provincial Governments.

The idea of the University is to provide, close to China, education for Chinese similar to that given in the British Universities, but at a much cheaper cost; for if a Chinese goes abroad to be educated he has to pay, besides travelling expenses, some \$2,500 per annum; whereas at Hongkong the expenses of the University are \$540 per annum for board and tuition, or, including extras, about a minimum of \$1,000 per annum.

The founders of the University took into consideration the fact that Chinese students being educated abroad have usually to make their own arrangements for board and lodging. Consequently sometimes they contract irregular habits. All students educated at the Hongkong University are required to become boarders, and thus their whole lives are under supervision whilst they are there. Ample provision is made for indoor and outdoor recreation, and in this connection it is interesting to note that the Chinese residents of Hongkong subscribed a large sum for levelling a new playing field for cricket, tennis, etc. There is also a University Union building for social purposes.

The University is composed of three Faculties: 1.—Medical, which offers ample facilities for the practice of medicine. The medical laboratories were the gifts of various Hongkong Chinese residents. There is a large staff of instructors in medicine and all the principal medical practitioners in Hongkong give lectures at the University. Clinical work is carried on at the Government Civil and Tung Wah Hospitals. The degrees are recognised for registration in Great Britain by the General Medical Council. 2.—Arts. The establishment of this Faculty was largely due to the munificence of a Chinese gentleman in the Straits Settlements (Mr. Cheung Pat-sze.) Its special object is to provide training suitable to those who desire to enter the public service or the higher branches of mercantile life. The course of instruction comprises English and Chinese literature, political and constitutional history, political economy, jurisprudence, international and commercial law, psychology, the school practice of education and history of educational theories. 3.—Engineering. This Faculty is divided into three branches—Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical. The University has an exceptionally large equipment of machinery and apparatus, and has a number of laboratories and workshops. There is practically no place in China where students have such an opportunity of seeing all kinds of machinery in actual working and of learning their practical management. Several graduates have obtained an Honour's Degree awarded by the Examiners of the London University.

The University insists upon all students having a proper knowledge of their own language although instruction at the University is carried out in English. Students are required to pass an examination in written Chinese before entering, and two Chinese Professors, both Hanlin graduates, give lectures on the classics and history of China.

V.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Central Police Station and the Harbour Office extensions were completed, and a commencement was made with the erection of two large blocks of Quarters for Scavenging Coolies, one block being situated in Belcher's Street and the other in Taipingshan.

Good progress was made with two blocks of Quarters for Government Servants at Happy Valley each containing six houses. A block of flats in Caine Road for married Police Officers, and three houses at the Peak designed for Quarters for Senior Officers were all well in hand at the close of the year.

A start was also made with the erection of two other houses at the Peak for the Puisne Judge and Mr. John Duncan respectively. The former is being built under arrangement with Messrs. Denison, Ram & Gibbs, the latter being designed and constructed by Mr. Duncan personally.

In addition to these, two blocks of four houses each were under construction at Leighton Hill, and a scheme was approved for the erection of five detached, and one block of semi-detached houses, and a block containing six flats on the area known as the "Homestead Site," at the Peak; both of these works were placed in the hands of local

firms of architects, the Leighton Hill houses being carried out by Messrs. Denison, Ram & Gibbs, whilst the work at the "Homestead Site" was entrusted to Messrs. Little, Adams & Wood.

Plans were also prepared by the Public Works Department for a large block of buildings on the area opposite the Central Market, comprising a new Fire Station, Offices for the Imports and Exports and Medical Departments and the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs. In Kowloon, a Fire Station was completed in Salisbury Road, and other minor works were in progress.

With regard to communications in Hongkong, the following roads were completed:—Road from Gap Road to Bowen Road, and from Bowen Road to Wanchai Gap, also the Findlay Road extension.

Works commenced and in progress during the year were:—the first section of the road from Taitam Gap to Shek O, the road from Wanchai Gap to Magazine Gap, the road connecting Pokfulam and Victoria Roads contouring the Western side of Mount Davis, and the extension of Lugard Road, whilst extensive widening improvements were carried out to the Shauiwan Road.

In Kowloon, considerable progress was made with the extension of Coronation Road, also with the Road connecting Mongkoktsui with Kowloon City; and the road from the Kowloon City Road to the China Light & Power Company's new Station and the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company's new houses at Tai Wan Bay was completed.

Advantage was taken of the large amount of filling obtained from the extension of the Coronation Road referred to above to level up portions of the low-lying areas east of Shanghai Street near this point.

In the New Territories, the extensive improvements to that portion of the Taipo Road between the 9th and 18th milestones were nearly completed, whilst further improvements to this road between the 3rd and 5th milestones were begun. A considerable portion of the road between Castle Peak and Fanling was macadamized, the surface being finished with asphaltum.

Progress was made with the necessary resumptions of property required for widening Wanchai Road and Queen's Road East, and a considerable number of houses were, either by partial or complete re-erection, set back to the new alignment.

A commencement was made with a further section of the Sham-shuipo Reclamation Scheme, and extensive building activity prevailed on the portion already reclaimed. The Kai Tak Land Investment Company made substantial progress with the reclamation of an extensive area of foreshore in Kowloon City, as did also the Standard Oil Company of New York in extending their reclamation at Laichikok.

Upwards of 4,700 lineal feet of nullah were trained on the Island and mainland.

Plans were prepared for the construction of Filter Beds at the Eastern end of Bowen Road, and a portion of the 18 in. main, which will eventually connect these Filter Beds with the City, was laid from Wong Nei Chong Village to Morrison Gap Road. Plans were also prepared for additional Filter Beds at the Kowloon Water Works.

The laying of the new 18 in. supply main from the Kowloon Filter Beds to Yaumati was practically completed, and a general improvement was made to the distribution system of Kowloon by replacing the existing subsidiary mains with larger ones.

Small supply systems for Repulse Bay and Fanling Districts were started.

A reinforced concrete pier opposite Queen Victoria Street for the Ferry Service was in progress, being the first of a series it is proposed to erect for the improvement of the Ferry service of the Colony.

The Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd., made considerable extensions to their Dockyard at Hunghom by laying down additional slipways, extending workshops, and providing houses for their staff.

The total amount expended on Public Works Extraordinary was \$2,555,877·69, and on annually recurrent works \$825,493·70.

Railway.

The steelwork and roofing material for the platform awnings at Kowloon arrived early in the year, when a Contract for the erection, including drainage, was entered into, and the work is now completed. The lighting arrangements for the platforms were carried out by the Public Works Department. The platform awnings are of steel frame construction, roofed with corrugated asbestos cement sheeting, and provide a very necessary shelter from the sun and rain to a considerable portion of the platforms, as well as to the east side of the concourse.

Good progress was made in the construction of the new wharf for Kowloon Station Yard which is built of reinforced concrete, the longest piles being 55 ft. long. The wharf is 150 ft. long and projects 50 ft. from the sea-wall. There are six tiers of stairs which facilitate the transfer of cargo to and from local craft at any state of the tide.

With the exception of the cast-iron stair treads, the wharf was completed at the end of the year.

The Electric Turret Clock for Kowloon Station Clock Tower arrived in the autumn and the work of installing was at once begun. Unfortunately, however, progress has been seriously delayed owing to the non-arrival of necessary drawings and instructions from the makers.

The repairing of Government Motor Cars and Motor Fire Engines is now undertaken by this department, and a brick building has been erected in the Locomotive Yard to serve as a workshop for this purpose.

An iron building has also been erected near the workshops to accommodate the newly acquired electric welding plant which must necessarily be outside the workshops proper.

Owing to the gradual growth of Yaumati and neighbourhood, the question of a wide-span road bridge, where the road will pass under the railway north of Yaumati Station was again considered. Drawings were submitted to the Consulting Engineers who have since approved the general design and steelwork details and working drawings are now in preparation.

It had been observed for some time past that the rails in Beacon Hill Tunnel were rapidly wearing down, and early in the year a fractured rail was discovered.

After a careful examination of the track throughout the tunnel, it was decided to relay with new rails, and reserve those taken out for sidings. Sufficient rails and fastenings for this work were ordered through the Crown Agents and are now in the Colony.

On April the 3rd, the fitters and turners of the Colony came out on strike, and the railway fitters were compelled by their guild to join the strikers; 16 days later the drivers and firemen were obliged to stand off in sympathy with the fitters and turners. On April the 19th, however, the strike was settled by a commission appointed by the Government of which the Honourable Mr. John Johnstone was chairman.

During the absence of the Chinese drivers, men from the Navy and Army were lent by the Authorities, and greatly assisted in maintaining the train service during the period of the strike.

On August the 1st, a washout occurred on the Chinese section near Nam Kong, which necessitated the cancelling of both the down morning express, and the up afternoon express for five days. A temporary footbridge was erected, and the train service partly maintained by the transfer of passengers at this point until August the 8th when the repairs were completed.

Shortly afterwards, owing to internal trouble in the Kwong Tung Province, through traffic was again seriously interrupted. Fighting occurred in Chinese territory on September 16th near Nga Yeo (26½ miles from Canton). The up afternoon and down morning through expresses were cancelled that day and, from the 17th to 20th, with the exception of the up afternoon express on the 20th, the through and joint sectional trains were suspended between Canton and Sheklung in Chinese territory.

Fighting recommenced in October, resulting in further trouble in the Chinese territory; some rails were removed from the track near Sheklung on October the 6th and a railway bridge between Sheklung and Shek Ha was damaged four days later; also on the 14th the track was broken in the neighbourhood of Shek Ha, and, as the unsettled conditions continued until the end of October, the morning down and the afternoon up through expresses did not run from October the 6th until the 2nd November; and the afternoon down and the morning up expresses were cancelled between the 24th of October and the 1st of November.

The running of the two slow through trains had to be discontinued for 10 days during this period; and it was not until the 2nd November, that the full train service was resumed.

The Local Traffic Earnings have improved. The receipts amounted to \$194,041·14 against \$179,434·14 or \$14,607·00 more than the previous year, the increase being under passenger receipts. In May, it was decided that the railway should discontinue its custom of debiting other departments for the transport of Government passengers travelling on duty and other services rendered, and accordingly the sum of \$4,577·77 is not included in the Railway earnings.

Through and Joint Sectional Traffic Receipts were \$318,345·37, an increase of \$16,017·63 when compared with 1919.

The Gross Receipts for the year were \$520,176·10 as against \$490,092·77 for 1919, an increase of \$30,083·33.

The balance after paying working expenses stands at \$33,032·06.

VI.—GOVERNMENT AND AIDED INSTITUTIONS.

(a.)—HOSPITALS.

Government Hospitals consist of the Civil Hospital, to which is attached an isolated Maternity Hospital, the Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, and the Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases

Hospital. There is an Observation Station capable of accommodating 1,500 persons in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease on board a ship arriving in the harbour.

The Civil Hospital contains 168 beds in 21 wards. 4,701 in-patients and 31,196 out-patients were treated during 1920 as against 3,926 and 22,446 respectively in 1919. 243 cases of malarial fever were admitted, as against 218 in 1919 and 211 in 1918. The total cases of malaria for all Government Hospitals and the Tung Wa Hospital shows an increase of 246 cases as compared with the year 1918. The Maternity Hospital contains 9 beds for Europeans and 8 for Asiatics. 502 confinements occurred during the year as against 460 in 1919. The Victoria Hospital at the Peak contains 41 beds, and during 1919 206 patients were under treatment there. At Kennedy Town Hospital, which contains 26 beds, 54 cases were treated in 1919, all being infectious.

(b.)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The Asylum is under the direction of the Superintendent of the Civil Hospital. European and Chinese patients are separated, the European portion containing 14 beds in separate wards and the Chinese portion 16 beds. 224 patients of all races were treated during 1920 and there were 3 deaths.

(c.)—THE TUNG WA AND OTHER CHINESE HOSPITALS.

The Tung Wa Hospital, opened in 1872, is mainly supported by the voluntary subscriptions of Chinese, but receives an annual grant of \$8,000 from the Government. Only Chinese are treated in this institution. Various other services not appertaining to a hospital are performed by the institution, such as the free burial of the poor, the repatriation of destitutes, the maintenance of free vernacular schools and the organisation of charitable relief in emergencies. Chinese as well as European methods of treatment are employed in accordance with the wishes expressed by the patients or their friends. Over half the number are now treated by Western methods. The hospital is managed by a committee of Chinese gentlemen annually elected, their appointment being submitted to the Governor for confirmation. It is under the supervision of a visiting physician, who is a member of the Medical Department, whilst two Chinese house surgeons, trained in Western medicine, are members of the hospital staff. There are 330 beds in the buildings and 7,391 patients were accommodated during 1920.

The Tung Wa also maintain a branch hospital for small-pox cases (Chinese only) at Kennedy Town. It contains 60 beds and during 1920 6 cases were treated.

The Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals are managed and controlled by the missionaries resident in Hongkong, agents of the London Missionary Society, and consist of the Alice Memorial Hospital opened in 1887, the Nethersole Hospital opened in 1893, the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital opened in 1904, and the Ho Miu Ling Hospital opened in 1906. The number of in-patients in 1920 was 1,740 and the expenditure \$24,475.50. The number of labours in the Maternity Hospital was 447. The Government makes a grant of \$300 per annum to these Hospitals.

To avoid the complete seclusion from friends and relatives, which removal of Chinese plague patients to the Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases Hospital entailed, four District Plague Hospitals are now maintained by the Chinese in various parts of the Colony. These Hospitals are under the management of the Chinese Public Dispensaries Committee.

The Kwong Wa Hospital for Chinese in the Kowloon Peninsula was opened on the 9th October, 1911. It occupies a site having an area of three acres and provides accommodation for 210 patients. The existing buildings contain 70 beds and 4,067 patients were accommodated during 1920. The collection of subscriptions and the supervision of the building were undertaken by a special committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs. The hospital receives a grant of \$8,500 per annum from the Government.

As will be noticed from the remarks made under the heading Education the Hongkong University is also an Aided Institution.

VII.—INSTITUTIONS NOT SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT.

One of the most important institutions in the Colony not supported by the Government is the Matilda Hospital, which stands on a commanding site of nearly three acres at Mount Kellet in the Hill District. An account of this hospital will be found in the report for 1917.

Among institutions recognised and encouraged, but not to any considerable extent supported by Government, may be mentioned the Pó Leung Kuk, the Eyre Refuge, the City Hall, and the Chinese Public Dispensaries.

The Pó Leung Kuk is a Chinese Society founded in 1878 for the suppression of kidnapping and traffic in human beings. It was incorporated in 1893 and is presided over by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs and not more than nine directors nominated by the Governor. The actual management is entrusted to a committee elected annually by the members of the Society. The Society's buildings have been declared a Refuge under the Women and Girls Protection Ordinance, and almost all women and girls detained by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs under that Ordinance are sent to the Pó Leung Kuk. During 1920 the number of persons admitted was 405 and at the close of year 47 remained under the care of the Society. The inmates are under the immediate charge of a Chinese matron, and instruction is given them by the matron and a Chinese teacher in elementary subjects and in needlework.

The Eyre Diocesan Refuge is an institution under mission auspices, founded for rescue work among the Chinese. It was housed in the Belilios Reformatory up to the outbreak of war, but the work is at present carried on at Kowloon City. A small grant is made by the Government.

The City Hall receives an annual grant of \$1,200 from Government. It contains a theatre, some large rooms which are used for balls, meetings, concerts, etc., a museum in which are some very fair specimens and a large reference and lending library, to which new volumes are added from time to time, as funds will allow. The building was erected in 1866-9 by subscription.

Small grants are also given to the Italian Convent, the French Convent (both of which take in and tend abandoned or sick infants), the West Point Orphanage, the Seamen's Hospital, and other charitable institutions.

The Chinese Public Dispensaries are institutions maintained in order to provide the Chinese with the services of doctors, whose certificates will be accepted by the Registrar of Deaths, and with the services of interpreters, who can assist the inmates of houses, where a case of infectious disease has occurred. Coolies are engaged and ambulances and dead vans provided in order to remove cases of infectious disease to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and dead bodies to the Mortuary. The Dispensaries receive sick infants and send them to one or other of the Convents and arrange for the burial of dead infants. Free advice and medicine are given and patients are attended at their houses. There are eight Dispensaries in existence. The total cost of maintenance was \$37,293 for the year 1920. The Government makes an annual grant of \$7,000, and the rest of the cost is defrayed by voluntary subscription. The Dispensaries are conducted by committees under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

VIII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(a)—POPULATION.

The civil population of the Colony, according to the Census taken on May 20th, 1911, was 456,739, of whom 104,287 reside in the New Territories and in New Kowloon; at the Census taken in 1906 it was 301,967 exclusive of the New Territories and of New Kowloon. The estimated total population at the middle of the year under review was 648,150, but this includes the New Territories; and as the birth and death figures given below do not include those from this area (with the exception of New Kowloon), the population for the purposes of calculating these rates is estimated at 547,350, of whom 14,000 were Non-Chinese.

The distribution of population estimated to the middle of 1920 was as follows:—

Non-Chinese Civil Community	..	..	..	..	14,000
Chinese Population—					
City of Victoria (including Peak)	..	..	342,000		
Villages of Hongkong	..	..	18,050		
Kowloon (including New Kowloon)	..	..	104,000		
New Territories	..	..	100,800		
Population afloat	..	..	69,300		
Total Chinese Population	..	..		<u>634,150</u>	
Total Civil Population	..	..	..	..	<u>648,150</u>

(b)—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The activity in building operations, which has been so noticeable a feature since 1912, has not abated, and the demand for housing accommodation by the Chinese continued to be greatly in excess of the supply, as many of those who fled with their families to Hongkong during 1911, 1912, and 1913 elected to remain in the Colony.

The birth-rate for the year was 3·96* per 1,000 among the Chinese community and 21·9 per 1,000 among the Non-Chinese community, as compared with 3·9 and 20·6 for 1919.

The death-rate for the year was 22·78 per 1,000 among the Chinese community and 17·9 among the Non-Chinese civil community, as compared with 23·3 and 21·9 for 1919.

The number of deaths from malaria (332) shows an increase on the previous year (319). The deaths of Chinese from this cause in the City of Victoria numbered 124 out of a population of 342,000 or a rate of 0·36 per 1,000 per annum.

The deaths from plague numbered 120 as compared with 426 in 1919.

Small-pox deaths numbered 21, all Chinese.

There were 3,834 deaths from respiratory diseases, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis, as compared with 3,049 in 1918, and 45 of these were among the Non-Chinese community. Pulmonary Tuberculosis claimed 1,380 Chinese and 21 Non-Chinese victims, whilst other forms of Tuberculosis represent an additional 681 deaths, making a total of 2,082 or 16·7 per cent. of the total deaths among the community.

Beri-beri was responsible for 361 deaths, as compared with 555 during 1919 and 804 in 1918. During the past few years circulars have been distributed to all large employers of coolie labour calling their attention to the fact that Beri-beri is produced by the consumption of white rice as the staple article of diet without a sufficiency of other foods, and advising that beans should be supplied with the rice, when fresh meat or fresh fish cannot be afforded.

A tabular statement of the principal causes of death is appended.†

(c)—CLIMATE.

The principal features of the weather in 1920 were :—

(a) Barometric pressure below normal from the beginning of May to the beginning of August.

(b) Rainfall much above normal in May and July.

Barometric pressure was considerably below normal in May, June, July, November and December, and moderately above in January. The mean pressure for the year at station level was 29·814 ins. as against 29·842 ins. in 1919 and 29·843 ins. for the past 37 years. The highest pressure was 30·374 ins. on January 4th as against 30·398 ins. in 1919 and 30·509 ins. for the past 37 years. The lowest pressure was 29·208 ins. on July 19th as against 29·287 ins. in 1919 and 28·735 ins. for the past 37 years.

The temperature of the air was moderately below normal in April and considerably above normal in November and December. The mean temperature for the year was 72°·0 as against 72°·2 in 1919 and 71°·8 for the past 37 years. The highest temperature was 93°·1 on July 25th as against 92°·2 in 1919 and 97°·0 for the past 37 years. The lowest temperature was 45°·1 on January 5th as against 39°·4 in 1919 and 32°·0 for the past 37 years.

The rainfall was considerably above normal in May, July and November. The total for the year was 107·880 ins. as against 76·140 ins. in 1919, and 84·276 ins. for the past 37 years. The greatest fall in one civil day was 8·235 ins. on July 19th and the greatest in one hour was 1·435 ins. between 8.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. on September 12th.

* This figure is wholly misleading as it is impossible to register more than a portion of the births.

† See Appendix.

The wind velocity was considerably below normal in January and October, and moderately below in February, July and September. It was moderately above normal in May and July. The mean velocity for the year was 12·0 m.p.h. as against 11·4 m.p.h. in 1919 and 12·7 m.p.h. for the past 37 years. The maximum velocity for one hour as recorded by the Beckley Anemograph was 51 miles at 2 p.m. on July 31st as against 60 miles in 1919 and 108 for the past 37 years. The maximum squall velocity, as recorded by the Dines-Baxendell Anemograph, was at the rate of 61 m.p.h. at 10 h. 58 m. p.m. on July 30th as against 84 m.p.h. in 1919 and 105 m.p.h. for the past 11 years.

The climate of Hongkong is similar in its broad features to that of Kowloon and the New Territories, but at the higher levels, from 1,400 to 1,800 feet above sea level the temperature is usually from 3° to 6° lower than at the Observatory, Kowloon. The humidity is usually greater than in Kowloon and approaches saturation for several days at a time during March and April when mist is very prevalent. In summer the city of Victoria, and the rising terraces behind it, derive little or no benefit from the SW monsoon, being sheltered by steep hills from SE to SW. In winter it is exposed to the NE monsoon, which occasionally blows along the harbour through Lyemun Pass with considerable violence. On the other hand the South-west side of the Island is protected from the NE monsoon in winter and enjoys the benefit of the SW monsoon in summer.

X.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The total revenue from the Postal Service in 1920 amounted to \$526,122·08, being \$76,065·33 more than that collected in 1919. The net expenditure amounted to \$229,378·70. The balance of revenue over expenditure amounted to \$296,743·38.

The revenue collected in 1920 from radio-telegrams amounted to \$14,591·73, being \$4,241·70 more than that collected in 1919. Advices of vessels signalled at the Lighthouses yielded \$581·20 making a total of \$15,172·93 for the Telegraph Service. The expenditure amounted to \$39,335·15. The number of radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 1,965 consisting of 25,221 words, and 5,306 received consisting of 75,007 words.

CLAUD SEVERN,
Colonial Secretary.

28th October, 1921.

APPENDIX.
DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE COLONY OF HONGKONG DURING 1920.

	Typhus Fever.	Haemoglobinuric Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Influenza.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	Dysentery.	Plague.	Malarial Fever.	Cholera.	Puerperal Fever.	Septic Infections.	Syphilis.	Poisoning.	Injuries.	Developmental Diseases.	Old Age.	General Tuberculosis.	Beri-berl.	Cancer.	Paralysis and Convulsions.	Heart Diseases.	Pneumonia.	Phthisis & Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Enteritis and Gastro-Enteritis.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Peritonitis.	Nephritis.	Other Causes.	Unknown.	All Causes.	
British and Foreign Community—																																			
Civil	1	1	1	27	2	—	10	3	4	10	4	9	—	—	—	1	2	—	17	3	3	4	4	8	2	7	35	21	7	—	1	9	71	1	268
Chinese Community—																																			
Victoria and Peak	—	—	—	186	4	15	36	19	57	142	105	124	4	6	26	388	9	170	315	213	297	238	46	159	121	1,565	897	280	24	17	176	2,514	39	8,192	
Harbour ..	—	—	—	47	—	—	8	1	4	26	3	60	2	4	2	5	1	43	8	101	15	49	6	4	5	111	136	28	4	1	20	131	75	900	
Kowloon ..	—	—	—	276	15	7	13	5	34	77	4	77	—	—	26	34	1	64	25	243	74	48	17	12	47	419	308	191	10	5	79	537	80	2,728	
Shaoliwan ..	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	13	—	1	2	1	—	9	4	15	12	17	4	1	2	43	20	7	3	—	2	39	2	208	
Aberdeen ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	38	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	16	1	3	—	—	1	6	17	1	—	—	—	2	—	95	
Stanley ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	5	1	28	
Total, 1920 ..	1	1	1	542	21	23	67	28	103	259	120	332	6	11	57	431	11	304	355	566	403	361	81	178	184	2,179	1,401	514	41	24	287	3,299	198	12,419	
„ 1919 ..	—	—	—	449	15	6	85	36	204	178	428	319	42	15	126	208	10	256	432	522	539	555	53	168	124	2,043	1,006	805	47	31	227	2,258	460	11,647	

The wind velocity was considerably below normal in January and October, and moderately below in February, July and September. It was moderately above normal in May and July. The mean velocity for the year was 12·0 m.p.h. as against 11·4 m.p.h. in 1919 and 12·7 m.p.h. for the past 37 years. The maximum velocity for one hour as recorded by the Beckley Anemograph was 51 miles at 2 p.m. on July 31st as against 60 miles in 1919 and 108 for the past 37 years. The maximum squall velocity, as recorded by the Dines-Baxendell Anemograph, was at the rate of 61 m.p.h. at 10 h. 58 m. p.m. on July 30th as against 84 m.p.h. in 1919 and 105 m.p.h. for the past 11 years.

The climate of Hongkong is similar in its broad features to that of Kowloon and the New Territories, but at the higher levels, from 1,400 to 1,800 feet above sea level the temperature is usually from 3° to 6° lower than at the Observatory, Kowloon. The humidity is usually greater than in Kowloon and approaches saturation for several days at a time during March and April when mist is very prevalent. In summer the city of Victoria, and the rising terraces behind it, derive little or no benefit from the SW monsoon, being sheltered by steep hills from SE to SW. In winter it is exposed to the NE monsoon, which occasionally blows along the harbour through Lyemun Pass with considerable violence. On the other hand the South-west side of the Island is protected from the NE monsoon in winter and enjoys the benefit of the SW monsoon in summer.

X.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The total revenue from the Postal Service in 1920 amounted to \$526,122·08, being \$76,065·33 more than that collected in 1919. The net expenditure amounted to \$229,378·70. The balance of revenue over expenditure amounted to \$296,743·38.

The revenue collected in 1920 from radio-telegrams amounted to \$14,591·73, being \$4,241·70 more than that collected in 1919. Advices of vessels signalled at the Lighthouses yielded \$581·20 making a total of \$15,172·93 for the Telegraph Service. The expenditure amounted to \$39,335·15. The number of radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 1,965 consisting of 25,221 words, and 5,306 received consisting of 75,007 words.

CLAUD SEVERN,
Colonial Secretary.

28th October, 1921.

APPENDIX.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE COLONY OF HONGKONG DURING 1920.

HONGKONG, 1920.

	Typhus Fever.	Haemoglobinuric Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Influenza.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	Dysentery.	Plague.	Malarial Fever.	Cholera.	Puerperal Fever.	Septic Infections.	Syphilis.	Poisoning.	Injuries.	Developmental Diseases.	Old Age.	General Tuberculosis.	Beriberi.	Cancer.	Paralysis and Convulsions.	Heart Diseases.	Pneumonia.	Phthisis & Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Enteritis and Gastro-Enteritis.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Peritonitis.	Nephritis.	Other Causes.	Unknown.	All Causes.
Civil	1	1	1	27	2	—	10	3	4	10	4	9	—	—	1	2	—	17	3	3	4	4	8	2	7	35	21	7	—	1	9	71	1	268
Chinese Community—	—	—	—	186	4	15	36	19	57	142	105	124	4	6	26	388	9	170	315	213	297	238	46	159	121	1,565	897	280	24	17	2,514	39	8,192	
Victoria and Peak	—	—	—	47	—	—	8	1	4	26	3	60	2	4	2	5	1	43	8	101	15	49	6	4	5	111	136	28	4	1	20	131	78	900
Harbour ..	—	—	—	276	18	7	13	8	34	77	4	77	—	—	20	34	1	64	25	243	74	48	17	12	47	419	308	191	10	8	70	837	80	2,728
Wanchai ..	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	13	—	1	5	1	—	9	4	15	12	17	4	1	2	43	20	7	—	—	—	—	—	208
Ap Lei Chau ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	1	—	—	—	—	—	95
Islands ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28
Total 1920 ..	1	1	1	510	33	22	87	55	159	390	333	333	33	11	37	431	11	334	600	433	601	461	178	184	184	3,170	1,401	814	41	24	3,007	3,006	106	12,419
1919 ..	—	—	—	510	18	8	85	55	159	400	310	333	33	18	100	330	10	330	603	333	330	333	33	106	184	184	3,035	1,006	603	47	35	3,336	400	11,647

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	1919
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

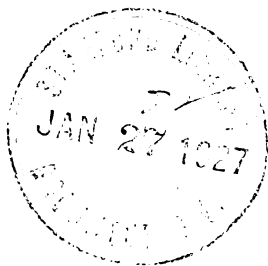
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1109.

BRITISH GUIANA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919, see No. 1068.)



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BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE
YEAR 1920.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1920, was £1,270,675, as compared with £862,491 in the year 1919.

The expenditure was £1,007,047, as compared with £886,568 in the year 1919; there was therefore a surplus of revenue over expenditure of £263,628.

TAXATION.

2. The Customs Duties Ordinance was remodelled to give effect to the Canada Reciprocity Agreement signed at Ottawa in June, 1920, provision being made for admitting all articles grown, produced or manufactured within the Empire at preferential rates of duty as follows:—

All articles (other than Wines and Spirits) to be admitted at rates 50 per cent. below the general rates of duty;

Potable Spirits, Liqueurs and Cordials at a preference of 60 cents per proof gallon, and Wines of all descriptions at 20 per cent. below the general rates of duty per liquid gallon.

The only other change of importance made in the Tariff was the removal of the export duties on Sugar, Rum, Rice, Firewood, Charcoal and Balata.

Section 62 of Ordinance 41 of 1919, which imposed an Invoice, Shipping Bill or Specification Tax of 1 per cent. on the value of all goods imported and exported (wheaten flour excepted), was amended by Section 62 of Ordinance No. 33 of 1920, raising the tax from 1 per cent. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

3. On 31st December, 1920, there was a surplus balance of assets over liabilities amounting to £442,176 4s. $5\frac{1}{2}$ d.

PUBLIC DEBT.

4. The Funded Debt at the commencement of the year stood at	£	s.	d.
On 31st December, 1920, it amounted to	1,169,094	3	4
	1,144,896	5	0

A decrease of £24,197 18 4

The balance at credit of the Sinking Fund for the extinguishment of the Funded Debt at the close of the year amounted to.. .. . 299,934 19 11

There was also held at credit of the Repayments by Corporations of Loans (Reserve Fund) a sum of 176,090 16 2

The amount due from Corporations in respect of Advances made from Loan Funds was 286,445 5 8

Less £762,471 1 9

Loans due by Government estates and by villages, which the Government is itself repaying, shown above as due by Corporations 1,211 1 1½

The capitalized value of the repayments in respect of Vlissengen Loan .. 19,460 10 0

The capitalized value in respect of repayment on account of Sea Defences 22,944 1 0½

43,615 12 2

£718,855 9 7

CURRENCY.

5. The Colony's currency is a dual one, based on the pound sterling and also on the dollar. It consists of :—

- (1) All British gold coins ;
- (2) All British silver coins ;
- (3) All British copper coins ;
- (4) British Guiana fourpenny pieces ;
- (5) British Guiana Government \$1 and \$2 currency notes ;
- (6) Colonial Bank notes for \$5 and multiples of \$5 ;
- (7) Royal Bank of Canada notes for \$5 and multiples of \$5 ;
- (8) American Gold Double Eagles, Eagles, Half Eagles, Quarter Eagles and Dollars.

British and American gold coins are seldom seen in the Colony; and the farthing, though legal tender, is never used.

Notes are issued by the Government and the Colonial and Royal Banks. The face value on 31st December, 1920, of the Government issue of currency notes was \$699,933. At present Government notes are restricted to the denominations of \$1 and \$2. The note issue of the Colonial Bank is regulated by Imperial Statute; and the Royal Bank of Canada by Local Ordinance No. 1 of 1914. Both Banks issue notes in denominations of \$5, \$20 and \$100. Neither Bank is permitted to issue notes in the dollar denomination of a face value of less than \$5. But the Colonial Bank has power also to issue notes of a face value of a pound or for any sum being a multiple thereof.

Accounts are kept in dollars, the dollar being regarded for accounting purposes as equal to 4s. 2d.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

6. The total value of imports for the year 1920 (including transit trade) amounted to £5,179,486, being £1,588,674 greater than the aggregate value of the imports of 1919.

The goods imported may be classified as follows:—

	1919.	1920.
1. Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	£1,012,998	£1,388,075
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	320,956	514,970
3. Articles wholly or mainly manu- factured	1,906,726	2,797,711
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified ..	16,183	18,074
5. Bullion and Specie	18,517	3,859

The value of the imports (including transit trade) for the past five years averaged £3,669,817 *per annum*.

EXPORTS.

7. The total value of the exports for the year ended 31st December, 1920, was £6,142,998. This amount includes British and foreign goods re-exported and transhipped during the year, valued at £666,707. The value of the export trade was more than the previous year's transactions to the value of £1,902,166, or an increase of 44·85 per cent.

The table below shows the value of the exports (excluding transit trade) under the four classes into which they naturally fall :—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
1. Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	3,280,551	5,021,893
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	375,214	413,050
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	151,564	205,268
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	—	3,914
5. Bullion and Species	116,968	42,096

There was an increase of £1,925,656 in the value of sugar exported in 1920. The quantity was greater than that exported in 1919 by 625 tons, the figures for 1920 and 1919 being 83,765 tons valued at £4,192,982, and 83,140 tons valued at £2,475,660 respectively. The year 1920 was prosperous for sugar estate proprietors, as good prices were obtained to within the last four or five months of the year, when there was a sudden drop in sugar values.

The quantity of rum shipped during the year was less than the exports of 1919 by 2,570,599 proof gallons, and the value was less than that of 1919 by £128,105. The exports for 1920 were 1,772,170 proof gallons, valued at £363,245, as against 4,342,769 proof gallons, valued at £491,350, exported in 1919. 1,454,982 proof gallons of the quantity exported in 1920 went to the United Kingdom.

The value of Colonial produce exported in the last five years averaged £3,837,074 per annum.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

8. The United Kingdom takes first place with 35·30 per cent. of the aggregate trade of the Colony, Canada is second with 28·44 per cent., and the United States occupies the third place with 21·47 per cent. This distribution of trade is quite different from the distribution which prevailed immediately prior to the War. In 1914 the home country had 57·40 per cent. of the Colony trade as against 35·30 in 1920. Canada in the former year secured 20·52 per cent. as against 28·44 per cent. in the latter year, whilst the United States advanced their aggregate trade with the Colony from 10·91 per cent. in 1914 to 21·47 per cent. in 1920.

During the great war a large proportion of trade which had formerly been done by the United Kingdom was diverted to the United States, but since the cessation of hostilities trade conditions with the former country have exhibited a tendency towards gradual improvement, and there is every possibility of greater

expansion, provided that the class of goods for which Britain has always been noted can be supplied on the conditions demanded by trade, as the quality of British-made goods is so well known as to place them in the forefront of the world's manufactures. Therefore with increased production it is reasonable to expect to see great improvement in British trade in the near future.

The aggregate trade done with Canada in 1920 was slightly less than in the previous year, that for 1920 being 28·44 per cent. as against 30·54 per cent. in 1919. Of the total quantity of sugar exported during the year, 36,377 tons went to Canada and the greater part of the balance of sugar exports went to the United Kingdom.

AGRICULTURE.

9. The sugar crop of the Colony was far below the average, being 87,180 tons as compared with 106,000 tons, the average annual yield of the preceding nine years. The deficiency was caused by scarcity of labour and unfavourable seasons as well as by a scarcity of nitrogenous manure (sulphate of ammonia). Only 83,765 tons of sugar were exported during 1920. The returns submitted by sugar estates in the Colony show that in 1920 more than 95 per cent. of the total area—69,530 acres—under sugar cane was planted in varieties other than the Bourbon. Only about 2,800 acres are now occupied by Bourbon unmixed with other varieties. Of the area, estimated at 63,400 acres, cultivated in new varieties, 94 per cent. was under canes raised from seed in this Colony, while about 5 per cent. was occupied by varieties imported from Barbados. Of the total area in cane cultivation, 82 per cent. is occupied by new varieties raised at the Georgetown Botanic Gardens.

SUBSIDIARY AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

10. The area planted with rice amounted to 54,438 acres, of which 11,303 acres yielded two crops. The total yield was 42,500 tons of paddy, equal to 25,500 tons of rice. The rice produced was not of the usual high quality; 8,094 tons of rice were exported during the year 1920. Very large areas of the front lands of the Colony are pre-eminently suitable for the cultivation of rice, and hence the proportion of them planted in paddy has increased year by year.

11. The acreage under cacao remains stationary at about 2,000 acres. A very large proportion of the cacao produced—at least 150,000 lb. annually—is used locally either in the preparation of chocolate or of confectionery. There is an extensive belt of land in the Colony well suited for cacao, and it is to be regretted that its cultivation is not extending.

12. The planting of Para rubber has materially decreased. It is estimated that 2,806 acres remain planted with Para rubber in the Colony, as compared with 5,100 in 1917.

It has been proved that the Para rubber tree grows well on suitable lands in the Colony. Unfortunately, on the lands more suitable for its cultivation it has been very severely attacked by the Para rubber leaf disease with, in some places, disastrous effects. Tapping operations are conducted on a small scale, as the majority of the trees in the planted area are young. The tappings of five-year to ten-year old trees not affected by leaf disease have proved that yields of dry rubber per tree compare very favourably with those obtained in the Straits Settlements, Malaya, and Ceylon, whilst the quality of the product is excellent. Difficulties in obtaining a reliable labour supply for tapping operations are now very serious, and with the leaf disease are the main causes which restricted and are now rapidly lessening the area under Para rubber cultivation in the Colony.

Tapping experiments at the various experimental stations established by the Government continued to give satisfactory results, both as regards the yield of the trees and the cost of collecting the rubber.

13. The area reported to be under coffee was 5,052 acres. The export of coffee during the year amounted to 3,642 cwt., as compared with 8,353 cwt. in 1919 and 4,750 cwt. in 1918.

14. Coconuts are now planted on 24,400 acres of land. The export of nuts decreased from 4,693,000 to 2,621,000, while in addition 296 cwt. of copra and 20,093 gallons of coconut oil were exported. By far the greater number of the nuts grown, returned by the growers at 21,753,000, were used locally for the manufacture of oil or directly as food. There is a very wide area of land suitable for the planting of coconuts, on parts of which extension of such planting is being carried on. The yearly crops are largely increasing.

15. The cultivation of limes decreased during the year ; only about 1,050 acres are now occupied by this product. The small factory for the preparation of concentrated lime juice, erected by the Government at Onderneeming, Essequibo, has continued to work, and its operations have been attended with success. 571 cwt. of citrate of lime, 2,400 gallons of raw and 3,600 gallons of concentrated lime juice were exported, equal to 10,978 standard barrels of lime fruit. From these, 547 gallons of oil of limes were obtained.

16. There are large areas of land suitable for the raising of cattle. The number in the Colony, including 26,000 estimated to be on the hinterland savannahs, was estimated in 1920 at 85,938. Horses are returned at 1,240, sheep at 22,200, goats at 11,250, swine at 17,400, and donkeys at 7,100.

MANUFACTURES.

17. Sugar, rum, molasses, molascuit, rice, rice-meal and citrate of lime are the principal articles of manufacture exported. A certain quantity of leather and cacao is prepared for local consumption. Matches are made ; and there is a large and well-equipped ice factory with cold storage accommodation.

One of the three iron-work foundries has good accommodation for the docking and repairing of steamers of small size. There is also a Government dry dock, 160 ft. long and 35 ft. wide.

There are two well-equipped factories in Georgetown which manufacture boots and shoes of all descriptions for the local market. The larger is capable of turning out between 2,000 to 3,000 pairs per week, while the smaller can handle 500 pairs. Both establishments manufacture strong and serviceable footwear, which finds a ready sale with the great bulk of the people. The prices charged are very reasonable.

A very completely equipped factory for the conversion of maize, rice, other suitable grains and pulses, erected by the Government and worked under the control of a Committee of business men, was in operation during the year, but the supplies of raw material offered to the factory were insufficient to enable the factory to work more than half the number of days it ought to have done, and hence the factory was, commercially speaking, not a success. It is hoped that in future years the factory may be able to work for 300 days in each year and for not less than nine hours *per diem*. The results of the 1920 working show that when this position is attained the factory will be a commercial success.

FISHERIES.

18. There is room for considerable development in several directions, especially in sea-fishing, curing with the aid of ice, and smoking. A fair supply of sea fish is generally kept at the ice depôt, but ice is not generally used. In early times smoked or barbecued paku was got from the north-west district of the Colony in large quantities, but is now rarely seen. Salt cod, herrings and mackerel are imported in quantity, but no Colony fishes are cured. Fresh-water fish is obtainable in the markets, but not to the extent desired ; in fact, the supply is precarious. Rarely can a particular kind be got to order. The angler may enjoy good sport with tarpon or cuffum, as well as several other fish that are more grateful to the palate. The river fishing in the interior is exceptionally good. Fish glue or isinglass from the gilbaker was exported to the amount of 21,067 lb., value £2,441.

Crustaceans, such as crabs and prawns, add much to the food supply in the country districts.

Now that imported fish is much higher in price, it appears as if the demand for fresh fish has increased without a corresponding supply, hence prices are generally higher.

MINES.

19. *Gold*.—The gold produced during the twelve months, January to December, 1920, was 12,692 ozs., a decrease on the previous year's production due to fewer persons being engaged in mining consequent on the rise in the rate of wages in other industries and the high price of provisions, and also to the fact that many diggers were attracted to the Diamond fields.

Dredging operations were continued by the Guiana Gold Company in the Konawaruk River with three bucket dredges, and by the Minnehaha Development Company with one dredge of similar type in the Madhia Creek, a main tributary on the right bank of the Potaro River. The returns were still below the average, the total output for 1920 being 6,238 ozs.

20. *Diamonds*.—The output of diamonds for the twelve months, January to December, 1920, was 39,362 carats, estimated to be worth £211,829. The stones averaged between five and six to the carat, which is about the same as last year's average. The three largest stones declared during the year weighed $21\frac{3}{16}$, $9\frac{1}{2}$, and $9\frac{1}{4}$ carats respectively, whilst several ranged between 5 and 8 carats.

Diamond mining was successfully carried on, as the prices realised in the first part of the year continued to be remunerative. There was a drop in prices during the last quarter.

21. *Mineral Oil*.—There were in existence on the 31st of December, 1920, three licences to explore for mineral oil over areas in the North-Western and Pomeroon districts. No definite results had been recorded up to the end of the year, however.

Surface examinations, on behalf of Mr. D. E. Alves, of London, were made in the North-West District and other parts of the Colony by Mr. B. P. Macrorie and Mr. J. A. Bullbrook, Geological Surveyors; the results of their labours were not made known during the year, but it was generally understood that the opinion of the experts was unfavourable to the occurrence of mineral oil in the Colony.

Bauxite.—The Demerara Bauxite Company carried on mining operations at Three Friends, right bank Demerara River. The construction of 14 miles of light railway to "Mackenzie" was completed, and also the erection of a Crushing and Drying Plant at this latter place. The total quantity of ore shipped by this Company during the year was 31,379 tons.

CROWN LANDS AND FORESTS.

22. Seventy-five free grants, comprising an aggregate area of 782 acres, and subject to a condition requiring continuous

beneficial occupation during the first five years, were issued to returned soldiers. In addition, one purchase grant of five acres was issued. At the close of the year several conditional grants and leases for agricultural purposes were ripe for issue but were awaiting approval of the forms of title.

Two leases for grazing purposes, embracing an aggregate area of 2,140 square miles of the Rupununi Savannahs, were issued for a period of 99 years.

The estimated area under rubber in the whole Colony at 31st December, 1920, had decreased to 2,800 acres. During the year 1920, 19,881 lb. of plantation rubber were exported. Many cultivators ceased tapping operations in consequence of the low price of rubber.

Balata bleeding operations were carried on throughout the year and 1,074,640 lb. of balata exported. Bleeding of balata by aboriginal Indians on the Reservations was continued, and 4,674½ lb. produced by them.

Timber.—68,200 cubic feet of all kinds of timber were exported from the Colony during 1920. In addition, 4,853 tons of firewood and 2,240 tons of charcoal were exported. Royalty was paid, however, on 619,045 cubic feet of timber, 3,811 tons of charcoal, and 83,993 tons of firewood, as having been removed from licensed Crown Lands.

Three hundred and sixty-three licences and one lease for 21 years, embracing an aggregate area of 409,845 acres for wood-cutting purposes were issued during the year.

SHIPPING.

23. There was an increase in the number of vessels which entered and cleared at the various ports of the Colony during the year ; 3,651 vessels, with an aggregate of 899,748 tons, entered and cleared, as against 3,428 vessels, with an aggregate of 711,518 tons, entered and cleared during 1919.

69·07 per cent. of the aggregate tonnage inward was registered as British, American coming next with 15·73 per cent.

EDUCATION.

24. The expenditure in grants-in-aid during the year was £53,023, and this sum was distributed among 224 schools, with an average daily attendance of 19,636, the number on the books being 35,037.

Out of 328 candidates examined from the Colony at the last Cambridge Local Examinations, 162 passed.

The honours and distinctions gained were 29 and 56 respectively.

INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

25. The instruction and training of vagrant boys and youthful male offenders are provided for by the Government Industrial

School Ordinance No. 8 of 1907. The Government Industrial School at Onderneeming has accommodation for 180 boys. The number of inmates on the 31st December, 1920, was 163, while the daily average during the year was 167. The net cost per head was £16 19s. 11d.

The large majority of inmates are trained in agriculture, the institution being worked as a farm school, and possessing 100 acres of land in cultivation with coffee, cacao, rubber, limes, nutmegs, and fruit trees. A small number of the boys are also trained as carpenters, tailors and bakers.

A minor industry factory for the manufacture of lime products, rice and corn meal is also attached to the institution, and affords a means of training the boys in these industries.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

26. The hospitals and asylums of the Colony were maintained during the year in their usual efficient condition. The total expenditure on the Medical Department, including the bacteriological department, quarantine services, vaccination, and medical examinations under the Coroner's Ordinance, was £111,578. Of this, £53,630 were for salaries, including the salaries of the dispensers attached to the various prisons, the industrial school at Onderneeming, and the alms house.

There are five public hospitals in the principal centres of population, and the outlying districts are served by dispensary hospitals and dispensaries. The immigration law also requires the maintenance of hospitals on every plantation, and these institutions are available for the treatment of emergency and pauper cases from the general community.

There were 556 patients in the public hospitals at the beginning of the year, and 14,330 were admitted during the year. There were 1,337 deaths. In addition to those admitted to hospital, outdoor treatment was given to 38,242 persons.

The daily average of inmates in the lunatic asylum was 676. Of these, 387 were males and 289 females; 69 were discharged cured, and 124 died.

At the leper asylum there were 273 patients when the year began, 198 males and 75 females. During the year 87 were admitted.

POOR HOUSE.

27. There is only one Poor House for the Colony, and this is situated in Georgetown. The daily average number of inmates during the year was 764, against 750 in the previous year. £19,464 19s. 7½d. were expended in maintenance, and there was in addition an outlay of £8,427 9s. 6½d. on outdoor relief.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

28. There is only one Savings Bank under Government control, managed by the Post Office, which conducts savings bank business at 51 offices. The amount at credit of depositors on 31st December, 1920, was £397,547 (inclusive of £1,250 due to depositors for unclaimed balances), or £72,893 more than in 1919. The number of accounts increased from 33,571 by as much as 3,087 to 36,658. Against the amount due to depositors, investments to the value of £369,631 were held, the market value of which, on the 31st December, 1920, had depreciated, however, to the extent of £74,566. Of the total on deposit, East Indians (indentured and unindentured) were responsible for £165,662; Portuguese, £18,882; Chinese, £18,234; and others, £193,517.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

29. There were 2,967 persons committed to prison during the year, being 19 more than in the previous year; of the total, 2,679 were males and 288 females. For the purpose of penal imprisonment 1,957 were received into the prison, as against 2,084 in 1919. The daily average in prison was 429·80, as compared with 413·38 in 1919. The total number in custody on 31st December, 1920, was 397, as against 451 in the preceding year.

There were 13 deaths among prisoners during the year; seven were subjected to corporal punishment, and there were no executions.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

30. The cases reported to the police numbered 8,021, as against 6,830 for 1919.

The cases dealt with by the detective department during the last two years are as follows:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Prosecuted.</i>	<i>Convicted.</i>	<i>Acquitted.</i>	<i>Withdrawn.</i>	<i>Undecided.</i>
1919	305	219	41	39	6
1920	301	226	30	45	—

VITAL STATISTICS.

31. The birth and death-rates appearing in this report have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the Colony at the 31st December, 1920, which was 307,290, or 159,510 males and 147,780 females.

There were 9,788 births registered during the year, or 1,850 more than in 1919, when there were 7,938 births registered, or an increase of 147 on the previous year's figures.

The birth-rate for 1920 was 31·9 per 1,000; that for 1919, 26·0 per 1,000; and for 1918, 25·1. The mean rate for the previous five years was 27·5 per 1,000.

The birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the several races representing the community is as follows :—

RACES.

Europeans other than Portuguese ..	..	10·6	} 21·0
Portuguese .. .. .	..	25·3	
East Indians .. .. .	..	33·0	
Chinese .. .. .	..	27·8	
Blacks .. .. .	..	31·1	
Mixed races .. .. .	..	32·5	

Of the births registered, 3,981 or 40·7 per cent. were legitimate, and 5,807 or 59·3 per cent. illegitimate.

The deaths registered were 7,879, or 4,498 less than in the previous year, when 12,377 deaths, or 237 less than in 1918, were registered. The death-rate was 25·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 40·4, the death-rate in 1919, and 40·6 for 1918. The mean rate for the previous five years was 33·2 per 1,000.

The death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of the various races is as follows :—

RACES.

Europeans other than Portuguese ..	..	14·0	} 25·7
Portuguese .. .. .	..	30·4	
East Indians .. .. .	..	26·3	
Chinese .. .. .	..	16·6	
Blacks .. .. .	..	26·3	
Mixed races .. .. .	..	18·9	

Infantile mortality.—The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 1,453, or 148 per 1,000 births for 1920, as compared with 1,469, or 185 per 1,000 births in 1919, and 1,739, or 223 per 1,000 in 1918. The mean rate for the previous five years (1915–1919) was 196 per 1,000 births.

The following table shows the proportion of deaths of the children under one year of age of each race to every 1,000 births of each such race for the year under review :—

RACES.

Europeans other than Portuguese ..	..	75	} 135
Portuguese .. .. .	..	145	
East Indians .. .. .	..	143	
Chinese .. .. .	..	52	
Blacks .. .. .	..	161	
Mixed races .. .. .	..	147	

PUBLIC HEALTH.

32. The birth-rate per 1,000 persons living of the total population for 1920 is 31·9. The death-rate per 1,000 persons

living of the total population for 1920 is 25·6. The infantile mortality rate is 148 per 1,000 births. The death-rate for persons of white race during 1920 is 25·7 per 1,000 living.

33. Enteric fever is a notifiable disease. During 1920, 795 cases were notified, with 138 deaths.

Anti-malaria and anti-mosquito measures are being generally and gradually enforced. The number of screened vats in the city of Georgetown has increased, as a result of the screening regulations being enforced. In 1906–1907, 33,748 cases of malarial fever were treated in the sugar estates' hospitals; at the end of 1920 the numbers have fallen to 4,415. Quinine has been for some years sold at all post offices to the general public at cost price. It is also distributed by the sugar estates free to their labourers. Prisoners, members of the police force, the inmates of the industrial school at Onderneeming, and attendants at the public institutions are also supplied by the Colony with free quinine.

Ankylostomiasis, which has engaged the attention of the medical department for several years, has considerably decreased on sugar estates; this is attributed to improved sanitary measures and the erection of latrines.

The whole of the inhabited portion of the Colony is gradually being brought under the control of the sanitary authorities by the appointment of district sanitary inspectors, who work under the close supervision of the Government municipal departments.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

34. The revenue collected by the Post Office was £53,218, against £44,104 in the previous year.

The inland money orders dealt with numbered 86,048 of the value of £200,204, as against 80,064 of the value of £168,949 in the previous year.

Foreign money orders were issued to the value of £20,450, while orders were cashed to the extent of £21,146. British postal orders were sold to the value of £3,329, and local orders £6,965.

OCEAN COMMUNICATION.

35. Since the termination of the contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, mails were received and despatched by boats of the *Campagne Générale Transatlantique*, the Royal Canadian Mail Service, the Quebec Steamship Direct Line, London-Liverpool Line, Dutch Government boats, and the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company, Limited.

MILITARY FORCES.

36. The police force, which is recruited from the general population and officered by Europeans, was maintained at its normal strength during the year.

In May, 1920, a considerable number of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Artillery Company Militia, Nos. 1 and 7 Companies, and the whole of No. 2 Company Infantry Militia passed on to the Reserve. These men had been serving since 1914 on account of the War.

IMMIGRATION.

37. There were no East Indian immigrants introduced during the year ended the 31st December, 1920.

The S.S. "Sutlej" returned to India on the 17th July, 1920, with East Indians from this Colony classified as follows:—

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		Total.	Adults.
				Male.	Female.		
476	281	77	87	12	16	949	853
Remittances				..	£23,305 8s. 4d.		
Jewellery				..	£3,884 4s. 8d.		

The S.S. "Chenab" returned to India on the 30th September, 1920, with East Indians from this Colony classified as follows:—

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		Total.	Adults.
				Male.	Female.		
486	247	65	78	12	24	912	822½
Remittances				..	£17,989 7s. 8d.		
Jewellery				..	£2,996 11s. 3d.		

The S.S. "Sutlej" returned to India on 20th December, 1920, with East Indians from this Colony classified as follows:—

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.		Total.	Adults.
				Male.	Female.		
364	168	25	35	6	9	607	569½
Remittances				..	£10,728 2s. 6d.		
Jewellery				..	£1,788 0s. 0d.		

CLIMATE.

38. The means of the principal meteorological records for the year 1920 were:—

	Barometer at mean Sea Level and Standard Gravity.	Air Temperature.			Humidity.		Rainfall.
		Mean Shade Temperature.	Means of		Vapour pressure	Percentage.	
			Maximum.	Minimum.			
English Units	Inches	Degrees Fahr.	Degrees Fahr.	Degrees Fahr.	Inches		Inches
	29·843	79·6	85·4	73·8	·816	82·4	76·98
C.G.S. & Absolute Units	Millibar	Degrees Abs.	Degrees Abs.	Degrees Abs.	Millibar		Millimetres
	1010·6	299·4	302·7	296·2	27·6	82·4	2055·29

The total rainfall for the calendar year 1920 at the Botanic Gardens, Georgetown, was 74·66 inches (1896·36 millimetres).

Sunshine.—The total amount of bright sunshine that was recorded during the year was 2752·8 hours, being 15 hours more than the previous year, and 314·2 hours more than the annual average recorded during the preceding 30 years.

The mean daily velocity of the wind was 7·70 miles per hour (3·44 metres per second). The mean velocity by day (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.) was 9·63 miles per hour (4·30 metres per second), and by night (6 p.m. to 8 a.m.) 6·45 miles per hour (2·88 metres per second).

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

39. The topographical and economic survey of the Rupununi Cattle Trail was resumed in April, and at the end of the year the following work had been completed, viz. :—

95 miles of main survey and levels along the trail from Canister Falls, Demerara River, to Annai, Rupununi River, which includes a branch line of $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Annai Landing on the left bank of that river ; inspection of the country to a depth of five miles on each side of the trail, over an area of 320 square miles, between 81 miles and $112\frac{1}{2}$ miles at Kurupukari on the left bank of Essequibo River.

The portion of country between Kurupukari and Annai has not been inspected, and the survey of the trail alone was completed to a point in open savannah, 180 miles from Takama, Berbice River, and about two miles east of the pass through Annai mountains.

In this distance the trail traverses an aggregate of $47\frac{1}{2}$ miles of savannah and $132\frac{1}{2}$ miles of forest, the longest continuous section of forest being $123\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length. Several important deviations of the existing trace, between Takama and Kurupukari, are possible, which will ensure a better alignment, reduce the number of stream crossings and the length of swamps to be crossed, and will shorten the trail by nearly 19 miles.

The survey has disclosed that while the present trail would be difficult and expensive in many places for road-making, owing to the number of bridges and culverts, embankments over swamps and grading work required, there are no serious difficulties in the way of locating a suitable trace for either road or railway over the country traversed. The highest point crossed on the trail, which is situate at $94\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Takama, is $362\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the datum of low water level in Berbice River at Takama.

40. Work throughout the year continued on the construction of permanent sea defences on the East and West coasts of

Demerara and in Essequibo ; and at the end of the year 1920 13 miles of sea walls and concrete faced dams, $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles of groynes, 9,240 feet of koker runs and 27 kokers—triple, double and single openings—had been completed.

O. WEBBER,

Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary.

1st October, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent Reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	1919
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	1919
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	1920
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	1918-1919
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1918-1919
1094	Weihaiwei	1920
1095	St. Vincent	1920
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	1920
1098	Nigeria	1920
1099	New Hebrides	1920
1100	Somaliland	1920
1101	Straits Settlements	1920
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	1920
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1920
1106	Seychelles	1920
1107	Ashanti	1920
1108	Hong-Kong	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the Northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

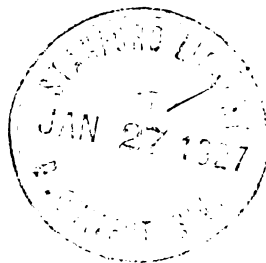
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1110.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1070.)



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No. 1110.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED,
31st DECEMBER, 1920.*

GEOGRAPHICAL.

British Honduras, one of the least known of the possessions of the Empire, is unique in that it is the only British Colony on the mainland of Central America. It lies between latitude $15^{\circ} 53' 55''$ N. and $18^{\circ} 29' 5''$ N. and longitude $88^{\circ} 10' W.$ and $89^{\circ} 9' 22'' W.$ It is bounded by Mexico on the north and west and by Guatemala on the west and south. Its greatest length is 174 miles, its greatest width 68 miles, and its estimated area 8,598 square miles. The Colony is divided into six districts, namely, Corozal, Orange Walk, Belize, Cayo, Stann Creek and Toledo. The Colony in size is almost equal to the whole of the British West Indies Islands put together. Eastward of the coast there are numerous cayes (islands), most of which are uninhabitable owing to the swampy nature of their soil. Others are inhabited by fishermen and coconut planters, and are also used as summer resorts by the inhabitants of the Colony.

2. The principal physical features are a littoral plain extending the whole length of the Colony for a width of about ten miles from the coast (except in the north, where it increases to about 50 miles in width), and westward of this, hilly country rising to a maximum height of about 3,700 ft. The principal range of hills is the Cockscomb Range (so called from its appearance when viewed from the sea), which commences in the neighbourhood of Manatee River and extends southward to Monkey River. The country is well watered by its many rivers and creeks, which are used as the principal means of transport and communication. The greater part of its area is covered with forest bearing many valuable timber trees, only four of which are at present exploited. These are mahogany and cedar, for which the Colony is famous, sapodilla, from the bark of which is bled a gum which after manufacture becomes the chewing gum of commerce, and logwood, well-known as a valuable dye-wood. Other indigenous products which are gathered in small amounts are cacao, cohune nuts,

* A sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 868. [Cd. 7622-59].

fustic, rosewood, rubber and sarsaparilla ; while the sea yields totoishell and sponges, in addition to the fish which forms a large part of the food of the inhabitants of the Colony; and provides sport for its visitors. There are large areas of pine forests ; open, park-like country with fair natural pasture and suitable for the raising of stock.

HISTORICAL.

3. The coast was discovered in 1502 by Columbus, and its early settlement is supposed to have been effected from Jamaica, about 1638, by adventurers, who were attracted by the fine timber (logwood and mahogany), which grew on the banks of the Hondo and other rivers. Their headquarters were at St. George's Caye. The name of the present chief town and of the Belize River is alleged to be a corruption of the name of the buccaneer, Wallis, who was driven from Hispaniola in that year, and who is said to have been the leader of the settlers.

4. An earlier settlement had been made by a chartered company, of which the Earl of Warwick was chairman and John Pym treasurer, on two small islands off the Mosquito Coast, in 1630. The Mosquito natives were very friendly to the English settlers, and their king, shortly after the conquest of Jamaica, placed himself under English protection, and the Governor of Jamaica exercised a sort of supervision over the affairs of the settlement. In 1793 the native king made a treaty resigning his country to Great Britain. Ruatan was abandoned in 1749, but at the same time an officer was formally appointed by the Government of Jamaica to superintend the settlements. By the Treaty of Paris in 1763, it was agreed by Great Britain to abandon the settlements, and the forts were dismantled and the garrisons withdrawn. The settlers remained, however, and from that date until 1798, when the last attempt to establish the sovereignty of Spain over the territory was defeated by the inhabitants in the "Battle of St. George's Caye," the Spaniards made frequent but ineffectual attempts to expel the wood-cutters by force of arms ; and treaty after treaty was concluded, which had little other effect than to stimulate the enterprise of the settlers by the recognition, thus step by step accorded, of the footing they had gained for themselves in Central America, without, in the first instance, any thought of territorial aggrandisement, but solely in pursuit of the industry in which their fortunes were embarked.

5. The Bay Islands were recognised as part of the Republic of Honduras in 1859.

6. The only subsequent events of external significance which need here be noticed, are the definition, as above, of the boundaries of the Colony (of which a survey has been partially executed) ; and the frequent border troubles, connected with the revolt in 1849 of the Indian population of Yucatan against the Spanish inhabitants, the result of which was that the Indians were in

possession of the country to a considerable distance north of the Hondo until 1901, when the Mexicans subjugated them. Occasional incursions into the Colony were made from time to time by the Indians, the last being in 1872, by the Icaiche tribe on the north-west frontier .

CONSTITUTION.

7. The first settlers from 1638 to 1786 managed their own affairs. Persons were annually elected to act as magistrates at public meetings held for the purpose. These magistrates discharged all executive and judicial functions. Resolutions were passed at public meetings and they formed the laws binding on the community. In 1756 these customs were formally recognised by the King's Government, after the visit of Admiral Sir William Burnaby to the settlement in that year. The customs of the settlers were codified and published, and became known as " Burnaby's Laws."

8. In 1786 a Superintendent was appointed by the Home Government, but during the years 1790–1797, elected magistrates again ruled the settlements. From this latter date superintendents were regularly appointed until 1862. An Executive Council was established in 1839 to assist the Superintendent, and in 1853 a Legislative Assembly was formally constituted, consisting of 18 elected and three nominated members. The settlement was declared a colony on 12th May, 1862, and a Lieutenant-Governor was appointed subordinate to the Governor of Jamaica. In 1870 the Legislative Assembly was abolished by a local enactment, and a Legislative Council substituted therefor, consisting of five official and not less than four unofficial, members, with the Lieutenant-Governor as President. Since 1913 the Council contains five official and seven unofficial members. On 31st October, 1884, Letters Patent were proclaimed constituting the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief, which rendered the Colony independent of Jamaica. These were renewed by Letters Patent proclaimed on 10th September, 1909.

9. The English Common Law and all statutes of the Imperial Parliament, " in abrogation or derogation, or in any way declaratory of the Common Law," passed before 1899, extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable, and subject to modification by Colonial ordinances. Pursuant to Ordinance No. 9 of 1913, a revised edition of the Consolidated Laws has been published in two volumes. This edition came into force on 14th January, 1915, and supersedes the edition published in 1887 and all ordinances passed before June, 1914. Appeals to His Majesty in Council are regulated by Chapter 16 of the Consolidated Laws.

10. The Executive Council consists of the Governor and six members, three of whom are ex-officio, the other three appointed members.

resources at the disposal of the municipal authorities, it is practically impossible to convert Belize into a thoroughly sanitary town, as for this purpose it would be necessary :—

- (1) To fill in all swampy lots in the town and all land within half a mile of the city limits.
- (2) To pipe water in from the nearest supply of pure water.
- (3) To provide an efficient drainage system throughout the town.

26. The towns of Corozal, Orange Walk, Stann Creek, Cayo and Punta Gorda, are on the whole in a more satisfactory condition from a sanitary point of view than is Belize, chiefly owing to the fact that all of them are possessed of fairly good natural drainage, so that water soon runs off the streets and lots.

27. *Ankylostomiasis*.—The Anti-Hookworm Campaign, which was commenced in 1917, was concluded this year. Omitting the Belize district, where the percentage of infection is not sufficiently high to amount to a serious pathogenic factor, the following table gives the population of each district, excluding mahogany, chicle and other camps and cays, where the infection is for the most part so inconsiderable as not to require treatment, with the number examined, the number of positives, and the number treated :—

District.	Popu- lation.	No. Examined	No. of Positive.	Treated.
Corozal	5,098	4,921	1,872	1,777
Toledo	3,900	3,064	2,362	3,205
Stann Creek	5,000	4,372	2,127	2,034
Orange Walk	4,000	3,259	514	483
Cayo	3,800	2,373	1,201	1,161
TOTAL	21,798	17,989	8,076	7,660

VITAL STATISTICS.

28. Estimated population on 31st December,

1920 45,083

Births registered in 1920 1,983

Deaths 1,101

497 marriages were registered in 1920, the rate being 11·29 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 9·68 for 1919. Of the 1,983 births, 990 were males and 993 were females. The birth-rate works out 45·03 per 1,000 of the population, as against 41·25 per 1,000 during 1919.

29. Of the 1,101 deaths, 534 were males and 567 were females, the death-rate being 25·00 per 1,000 of the population, a little lower than the normal rate of the Colony. The rate in 1919 was 27·55 and in 1918 it was 49·36 per 1,000, but this high figure was due to the influenza epidemic of that year.

30. During 1920 there were 244 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving a proportion per cent. of the total deaths registered of 22·2, and comparing with 18·3 per cent. for the year 1919. Between one year and five years of age, there were 173 deaths in 1920, comparing with 180 deaths of infants classified in the same age group in 1919. The proportion of deaths to each 100 births of infants between one and five years of age was in 1920, 21·0 per cent., and in 1919 it was 27·0 per cent.

31. The principal causes of death during 1920 in order of degree were from diseases of the digestive system followed by those of the respiratory system, and then by those classified under the genito-urinary system. Deaths from malaria give a proportion of 11·3 per cent. of the total deaths, and tuberculosis accounted for 14·2 per cent. of all the deaths registered—a higher proportion than usual, but due to sequelae of the influenza epidemic.

SPORT.

32. In the department of sport there is good entertainment for the dauntless hunter whose love of the chase is greater than his susceptibility to the many small annoyances of a tropical forest. In the neighbourhood of towns, villages and mahogany camps there is very little game to be found, but good sport may be had in those parts which are away from the haunts of men. Of large animals the jaguar, puma, tiger cat and tapir are the most popular objects of chase in the thick forest, while of smaller and edible animals and birds, the antelope, armadillo, gibbonet, the wild turkey, with his cousins the curassow and the quama, provide a sufficient variety of food. The wild turkey (*Meleagris ocellatus*) is also valued for his plumage. Deer are plentiful in the pine forests, and in the numerous rivers and lagoons the hunter may, with the aid of head light and harpoon, indulge in the exciting but not dangerous sport of spearing alligators from a canoe. In the sea and lower reaches of the rivers the fisherman finds an abundance of fish, including large tarpon. There is a polo club and a golf and lawn tennis club at Belize.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

33. The amount collected for import duties during the financial year 1920-1921 was \$520,591·45, as against \$530,877·13 in 1919-1920. The decrease of \$10,000 does not give a fair indication of the trade of the Colony during the year. The import duties collected in 1919-1920 were the largest in the history of the Colony, and it is probable that trade in 1920-1921 showed a real increase above that figure, quite apart from the increased cost of goods—one of the principal factors in the swelling of the duties during the later years of the War—which was still in evidence. The import duties collected in the first half of 1920-1921 were \$80,000 in excess of the duties collected in the same period of the preceding year. The introduction of the Preferential Tariff on

11. For administrative purposes the Colony is divided into six districts :— Belize, which includes the capital at the mouth of the river of the same name ; the Corozal district ; the Orange Walk district ; the Cayo district ; the Stann Creek district ; and the Toledo district, the main station of which is Punta Gorda, comprising the extreme south of the Colony.

12. A Commissioner is appointed to each district, who exercises the usual functions of that office.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

13. Under Chapter 87 of the Consolidated Laws (Revised Edition) there is a District Board, nominated by the Governor, in each district. These boards have jurisdiction over sanitation and public health, markets, slaughter-houses, traffic regulation, naming, numbering and lighting of places and streets in any town within their districts, building construction, etc. Their revenues are mainly derived from property taxes, liquor and other licences, rents and fees.

14. There is a partly nominated and partly elective Town Board in the town of Belize, established under Chapter 89 of the Consolidated Laws (Revised Edition). The Board exercises all the functions of a District Board and its jurisdiction extends to and includes St. George's Cay, Cay Caulker and Ambergris Caye.

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

15. The calendar year under review was probably the most prosperous one on record. Towards the end of the financial year ending 31st March, 1921, however, a period of depression set in.

16. January saw the installation of new fire-fighting engines and equipment, which arrived in December, 1919. The equipment is second to none in the West Indies. In January, Mr. W. R. Dunlop, of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, Barbados, arrived to investigate and report on the agricultural possibilities of British Honduras.

17. The report of the Commission of Enquiry into the riots in Belize was published in February. Prince William of Sweden paid the Colony a visit in February on an ethnological mission. Mr. P. Stanley Woods, Secretary of the British Honduras Chamber of Commerce, represented British Honduras at the Conference of Associated Chambers of Commerce of the West Indies, held at Barbados in February.

18. The Colony was visited in April by Mr. Algernon Aspinall, C.M.G., and his address to the British Honduras Chamber of Commerce was much appreciated.

19. Mr. H. E. Phillips, the Acting Colonial Secretary, represented the Colony at the Canada—West Indies Conference at Ottawa in June. The Royal Sussex Regiment left in June and were relieved by a detachment of the West India Regiment.

20. Lieut.-Colonel Maxwell H. Smith arrived in July and took up his duties as Colonial Secretary, and also the newly appointed Superintendent of Police, Captain H. J. L. Cavanaugh.*

21. Mr. Cornelius Hummel arrived in August to investigate and report on the forestry possibilities of the Colony.

22. In December, the Children's Ward of the Belize Hospital, erected in memory of Governor W. Hart-Bennett, who died from the effects of injuries received at the fire which destroyed the public buildings in 1918, was formally opened.

23. The Governor, Eyre Hutson, Esq., C.M.G., proceeded on leave to the United Kingdom on 21st August and returned on 2nd January, 1921. During his absence the Government was administered by Lieut.-Colonel Maxwell H. Smith.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

24. No records of emigration or immigration are kept. The probabilities are that during the last ten years greater numbers of people have left the Colony than have entered it. For the most part the emigrants have been young men who were attracted to the neighbouring Republics by higher wages than obtained locally.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

25. At the end of the year 1920 the sanitation of Belize was from the point of view of malarial and yellow fever prevention, by no means as satisfactory as it should have been. It is true that some attempt had been made by the Town Board to clean the yards and screen the water receptacles during the yellow fever epidemic in Guatemala. Belize is surrounded by swamps, while the town stands on land which has been only partially reclaimed from the swamp, and many lots all over the town are still in their original water-logged condition. The drainage is effected by open ditches and cement-lined canals throughout the town, which frequently get silted up, overgrown with rank vegetation, and form breeding-places for mosquitoes. The water supply is rain water stored in vats, barrels and tanks, many of which are imperfectly screened or not screened at all, and well water from wells, the majority of which are unscreened. With the present

* The authorised strength of the Police Force was raised from 1st April by the addition of the following numbers :—Four sergeants, four corporals and 24 men. The force was reorganised from 1st October and re-armed with the Lee Enfield rifle in place of the obsolete weapon, the Snider carbine. In December, Sergeant-Major Blades arrived with 35 men from Barbados, whither he had been sent to recruit them.

accounts are available, in respect of an average of incomes over three years ending at any time in 1920. The rates imposed by the law are as follows :—

a) On the first \$1,000 of the income	Nil.
b) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$1,000 and up to \$2,000	\$.05 ($\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.)
c) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$2,000 and up to \$3,000 .. ..	.10 (1 „)
d) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$3,000 and up to \$5,000 .. ..	.15 ($1\frac{1}{2}$ „)
e) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$5,000 and up to \$7,500 .. ..	.20 (2 „)
f) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$7,500 and up to \$10,000 .. ..	.25 ($2\frac{1}{2}$ „)
g) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$10,000 and up to \$15,000 .. ..	.30 (3 „)
h) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$15,000 and up to \$20,000 .. ..	.50 (5 „)
i) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$20,000 and up to \$25,000 .. ..	.75 ($7\frac{1}{2}$ „)
j) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$25,000 and up to \$30,000	1.00 (10 „)
k) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$30,000 and up to \$40,000	1.25 ($12\frac{1}{2}$ „)
l) On every ten dollars of the income beyond \$40,000	1.50 (15 „)

CURRENCY.

45. The currency of the Colony is on a gold basis, the standard coin being the dollar of the United States of America with the sovereign and half sovereign rated at 4.867 and 2.433, respectively. There are local subsidiary coins, which are minted specially for the Colony, consisting of 50 cent., 25 cent., 10 cent., 5 cent., and 1 cent. pieces. There is also a Government note issue consisting of notes of the following denominations, viz. :—\$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10. The face value of the notes authorised and issued at 31st March, 1921, was \$450,292.

III. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

TRADE.

46. It is probably safe to say that the high-water mark of the trade of the Colony reached in the previous year was passed in the year under review. A comparison of the values of the imports for the last six years is interesting in showing the progress made. The figures must of course be reduced by a considerable percentage to allow for the higher cost of manufactured articles and materials abroad in the latter years.

1915.—\$2,148,956.

1916.—Figures not available.

1917.—\$2,793,773.

1918.—\$3,565,416.

1919.—\$4,695,216.

1920.—\$5,876,711.

47. The United States of America and the United Kingdom continue to be the chief sources of supply. Imports from the latter, which fell about 50 per cent. during the war, due principally to shipping restrictions, showed a strong recovery in 1920 to almost pre-war level. The total value of the imports from the United Kingdom in that year were actually $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. more than in 1913, but the higher cost of goods in 1920 must be taken into consideration as offsetting this apparent increase in the total trade. On account of the Colony's geographical position and limited communication, the United States of America remains the main source of the Colony's supply. We were dependent upon her entirely for our foodstuffs during the war, and that situation, to a large extent, still obtains. The Colony depends on outside sources almost entirely for her food supply, very little being produced locally.

48. The value of the imports from the United States has increased steadily and in 1920, was more than two and a half times the value of the imports in 1913. The proportion as between the values of the imports from the United States and the United Kingdom, which in 1913 was 2 to 1, had increased in 1920 to considerably more than 4 to 1.

49. The United States and the United Kingdom are also the principal countries to which our products are exported. The proportion in the values of the exports to each country was in 1913, 6 to 1, and in 1920, $5\frac{1}{4}$ to 1, in favour of the United States of America.

AGRICULTURE.

50. Agriculturally the Colony is in a somewhat backward condition, due to the number of its population in relation to its area, and to the fact that there is no institution where the youth of the place can be trained in agriculture. The principal agricultural products are coconuts, bananas, sugar, plantains, rice, maize, yams, taniens, sweet potatoes, cassava, beans, pumpkins, oranges, grapefruit, limes, mangoes and avocado pears. Of these, coconuts, bananas, sugar, plantains and grapefruit are exported.

51. The parts of the Colony most suitable for coconut growing are the sea coast and those cayes which are sufficiently high above sea level. There the coconut thrives well with comparative freedom from disease and commences to bear in the fifth year after planting; while inland the trees arrive at corresponding maturity only after about eight years.

52. The banana industry has suffered in recent years from the prevalence of the Panama disease, which has attacked the plantations in the principal banana-growing area, the Stann Creek Valley. It is hoped that the efforts of agricultural experts to find a remedy for the disease or to propagate in large quantities a disease-resisting variety of banana will be successful, and that the Colony's former prosperous trade in this fruit will revive.

12th October, 1920, had an immediate effect in reducing the receipts from import duties and materially reduced the increased collections over the previous year during the first half-year of 1920-1921. This factor and the commencement, at the end of the financial year, of a period of trade depression, caused the receipts in the last half-year to fall \$90,000 below the receipts in the same period of the preceding year.

34. Light and wharf dues amounted to \$18,625·53 in 1920-1921, as against \$14,642·75 in 1919-1920. Increased shipping and also an increase in the export trade were responsible for ships of greater tonnage trading with the port.

35. The value of the exports for the year 1920 was \$5,045,671, as against \$4,448,809 in 1919. The Colony is in a peculiar position, in that in addition to its own chicle and mahogany industries, operations in these products, although directed from the Colony, are carried on over the borders in the adjoining republics of Guatemala and Mexico; the logs and gum, however, have to be transported through the Colony and shipped from the port of Belize; this is due to the Colony's geographical position. The value of this trade (imports re-exported) was \$2,180,133 and \$2,700,405 in 1919 and 1920, respectively—in the case of 1919, just under 50 per cent., and in that of 1920 over 50 per cent. of the total exports of the Colony.

36. The value of the imports for the year 1920 was (exclusive of bullion and coin, of which \$132,113 was imported), \$5,744,598 an increase of \$1,339,832 as compared with 1919.

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

37. The figures of revenue and expenditure are in respect of the Government financial year, which ends on 31st March. The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years is shown by the following statement:—

REVENUE.

1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
\$640,462·21	\$676,227·20	\$721,233·10	\$1,065,622·13	\$1,129,932·32

EXPENDITURE.

1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
\$613,788·19	\$675,234·52	\$670,736·81	\$981,816·28	\$928,816·55

38. The total Public Debt of the Colony outstanding at 31st March, 1921, was \$926,450·00.

39. The assets and liabilities on the same date were \$833,534·25 and \$303,255·46, respectively. The amount of the balance of the account at the close of the year 1920-1921 was, therefore, \$530,278·79, which includes a surplus balance of \$329,163·02 brought forward from the previous year on 1st April, 1920.

TAXATION.

40. Ordinance No. 13 of 1920 increased the tax on land other than land in a town, from one cent to one and a half cents an acre. The additional tax levied on land served by a railway, i.e., land within two miles of a railway, was reduced to 8½ cents; the aggregate tax on such lands, therefore, remained unchanged at 10 cents an acre.

41. Customs duties, including export duties, continue to furnish the major portion of the Colony's revenue. During the year under review the revenue from that head yielded no less than seven-twelfths of the *total revenue*. This fact shows that importations were larger and the high values on which *ad valorem* duties were paid, were still maintained during the first half-year, viz.:—From 1st April to 30th September, 1920. The Colony was a signatory of the Canada—West Indies Trade Agreement, and it was her privilege to be first in the field to pass into law a Preferential Tariff in accordance with the terms of that agreement.

42. Ordinance No. 33, of 1920, which was brought into force on 12th October, 1920, enacted changes of duty on certain articles and reduced the then existing general rate of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* duty to 15 per cent. under the "General Tariff," and 10 per cent. under the "Preferential Tariff." The rate of conversion of the pound sterling was reduced also from \$4·86 to \$4·00.

43. The fact that the Preferential Tariff applies also to imports from the United Kingdom, coupled with the reduction in the rate of conversion of the pound sterling, had its effect on the receipts from *ad valorem* duties, the total of which fell to \$150,133·71 in the last half-year (the best for revenue purposes), as against \$223,068·13 in the first half-year. It is necessary to note, however, that this falling-off in the receipts from *ad valorem* duties was also in part due to the beginning, toward the end of the financial year, of an era of trade depression.

INCOME TAX.

44. The year under review saw the enactment of an Income Tax Law in the Colony. It was brought into force by proclamation late in the year. The first assessment is to be made in the year 1921, in respect of incomes in the year 1920, or, if proper

Little or no new cultivation of lands has taken place in the Colony, due probably not to the lack of enterprise on the part of the planters, but to the fact that the great risk of disease coming into new fields is not offset by an attractive price for fruit. In one or two districts, notably Southern Stann Creek and Monkey River, plantations are comparatively free from disease, and from there shipments of fruit have been fairly satisfactory. It is hoped that in course of time with improved transport facilities and a better understanding between the fruit-purchasing companies and the planters, large areas of rich agricultural lands will be brought into cultivation.

COCONUT INDUSTRY.

61. The total exports for 1919 were 6,603,000 nuts, while those of 1920 were 6,263,000, showing in comparison a decrease in production of 340,000 in 1920.

62. This decrease, which would have been far greater but for a number of new plantations coming into bearing in 1920, was probably due to the exceptionally dry weather experienced in 1919-1920. Owing to lack of steamship competition and consequently high freight rates, planters, instead of shipping their own produce, are forced to sell to local buyers, chiefly the United Fruit Company and the Franklin Baker Company, who bear the cost of packing, when necessary, and of all export duties.

63. There are numerous plantations in the Colony, both on the mainland and on the many cayes which lie along the coast; in fact nearly all the available land on the cayes has been already planted out, the nuts grown on the cayes being of a much better quality than those grown on the mainland.

64. The Belize Estate and Produce Company, Ltd., own the largest single holding on Turneffe, the biggest of these cayes.

65. Coconuts bear all the year round, but production in some months is greater than in others—September and October being the months of highest production, while in March and April production is at its lowest. The average annual yield is 35 to 45 nuts per tree, but numbers of trees have been known to yield 150 to 200 nuts, and there is one known case of a tree which gave 500 nuts in one year. This is, however, very exceptional.

66. In 1920 the highest price obtained was \$36.00, while the lowest was \$25.00 per 1,000. The average price for the year was \$28.00. There is no grading of nuts in the Colony.

67. There is practically no copra made at present in the Colony, and no use whatever is made of the husks, which are not exported and are allowed to go to waste. An effort was made during the year 1920 to start a Coconut Planters' Association, which, however, resulted in failure.

FUSTIC INDUSTRY.

68. No fustic was shipped in 1920 and there are, at present, no accessible supplies in the Colony, but with the introduction of roads and other means of transport the vast supply of this product, which is of excellent quality and which is, at present, inaccessible, can be obtained from the interior.

LOGWOOD INDUSTRY.

69. The total amount of logwood exported during the year 1920 was 1,570 tons, all of which was shipped by The Belize Estate and Produce Company, Ltd., to the United Kingdom.

70. This represents the bulk of the Colony's accessible supply, and it is incredible that no cultivation is in progress in view of the fact that there are thousands of suitable areas lying idle, that this tree can be easily cultivated, and that the tree is sufficiently matured for cutting in ten years.

71. The British Honduras logwood is claimed to be of the finest quality and superior to Jamaica logwood, and though the development of the aniline dye industry in Germany caused a large reduction in demand for the haematoxylon dye, during the War there was a revival of the logwood business and there will probably always be a fair demand for logwood, provided the cost of supply is not excessive.

72. There still remains a very large supply in the Colony, but it is inaccessible owing to the lack of roads and other means of transport.

73. Logwood is shipped in pieces averaging 3 ft. to 4 ft. in length—only small trial shipments having been made of logwood chips.

MAHOGANY AND CEDAR INDUSTRY.

74. The total exported during the year amounted to :—

							Sup. ft.
Mahogany	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,773,150
Cedar	..	..	..	..	..	..	674,485
							<hr/> 10,447,635 <hr/>

Of this :—

3,823,217 sup. ft. mahogany and 337,238 sup. ft. cedar was shipped to the United Kingdom.

5,888,034 „ „ „ 337,247 sup. ft. cedar was shipped to the United States of America.

61,899 „ „ „ was shipped to Spain.

9,773,150

674,485

75. The year's export approximately equalled the average annual export for the period 1914-19, but amounted to only two-thirds of the average annual export for the pre-war period 1911-13.

53. There are 25 sugar estates in active operation and also a large number of small hand mills worked in connection with small plantations. Nine of the estates distil their molasses for rum for local consumption and for export. The soil of the southern part of the Colony is admirably adapted to the growing of sugar. The canes once planted ratoon for many years (in some cases as long as 30 years) without apparent diminution of sugar content. It is obvious that under such conditions sugar can be grown much more cheaply than in countries where the fields have to be ploughed and planted yearly or bi-yearly.

54. Of the 5,502,720 acres comprising the Colony an estimated area of 2,828,554 acres has been alienated, leaving 2,674,166 acres belonging to the Crown. Of this, about 32,000 acres are held on lease by small planters. Crown lands are sold at a minimum price of \$3.50 per acre, including cost of survey, except in cases where the purchasers undertake to put into effect pre-arranged schemes of development, when the price may be reduced. Crown lands are leased at a minimum rent of 25 cents per acre. A tax of one cent and a half an acre is imposed on all land, while on land served by a railway an additional tax of $8\frac{1}{2}$ cents is charged. The Colony generally has a rich soil suitable for the cultivation of all tropical agricultural products, and large tracts of Crown land are available for improvement, but in the present state of the Colony's development and in the absence of anything of the nature of an agricultural bank it is not advisable for persons without means to take up the land.

CHICLE INDUSTRY.

55. Prior to the chicle season, 1920-1921 (the season being reckoned over the period from 1st July to 30th June of following year), there was practically an unlimited demand for chicle procurable in and around this Colony, and competition was so keen that prices rose as high as from 65 cents to 73 cents per pound during the season 1919-1920, with the result that all who could rushed into the business, placing chicle on the market of a quality far below the usual standard; but, due to the demand for the article, very little attention was given to the all-important matter of quality, more especially by the small buyers, who looked for their supply out of what was left by the larger purchasers, whose chicle was secured mainly by contract.

56. This mad rush to place chicle on the market by producers regardless of quality was the cause of a considerable falling-off in the demand during the following (1920-1921) season, for not only had the gum manufacturers become chary about buying chicle in this market, due to the poor quality which had been supplied to them at the advanced prices, but they were by this time in a position to procure a natural gum from the Far East which had been gradually coming to the fore as a substitute for chicle, when prepared with other ingredients, in the manufacture

of chewing gum ; the supply of this substitute, during the War, had been reduced to a minimum owing to the difficulties of transportation.

57. Therefore, seeing the unwarranted figures to which chicle was climbing, manufacturers of gum devoted their energies towards perfecting this so-called " substitute " by experiment with such quantities of the substitute gum they were able to obtain, with the result that it has now been brought to such a state of perfection that it is not so easy a matter for a chicle expert to determine with certainty which of two samples put before him is that of desiccated chicle or the " substitute " for that article.

58. However, the manufacturers of chewing gum who have made a name for their brands declare without hesitation that chicle is a most desirable element in the manufacture of their products, which is proved by the fact that several of the smaller concerns who discarded chicle in the manufacture of their gum have gone out of business. The percentage of the Eastern gum used with chicle is not made public by the manufacturers, but the fact remains that they are using just as much as they possibly can without in any way damaging the quality of the finished article, as the cost of eastern gum is less than one-third that of chicle. This has naturally resulted in a decrease in demand for chicle, for not only are the producers called upon to face competition with the Eastern gum, but they have also to recover the ground lost by their inferior work during the period of high prices, which has naturally given the chicle exported from this Colony a bad name in the United States, driving buyers to look to Mexico and elsewhere.

59. The outlook for the season 1921-1922 is not a very promising one as compared with the past, for manufacturers have fairly large stocks of chicle on hand, and as prices are now beginning to find their proper level, they are inclined only to contract for such quantities as will keep the industry going. There appears to be little doubt, however, that the chicle business will revive as time goes on and prices come down (which they are doing gradually), and producers are convinced of the importance of placing a superior article in the market and thus retrieving their lost reputation and stimulating a greater demand for their product, which it is feared under the most favourable conditions is never likely to be what it has been in years past, before the Eastern gum was discovered.

BANANA INDUSTRY.

60. Banana production during the period under review has been disappointing, and the gradual falling-off in shipments from the Colony shows that the outlook for the future is by no means bright. This unfortunate condition has been brought about largely through ravages made in the Stann Creek Valley by Panama disease, which has now reached an epidemic stage there, threatening in the near future total destruction of the fields.

V. EDUCATION.

90. There is no marked progress to report.

ELEMENTARY.

91. The schools of the Colony are denominational in character and are associated with the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan and Baptist bodies. The Salvation Army has also recently come in. There are no Government schools. The present system of elementary education was inaugurated in the year 1894, when a new Code of Rules was brought into force. These have been amended from time to time, but the principle remains the same. They were framed under an Ordinance, No. 25 of 1892. Under these rules the school age commences at five years and ceases at 16 for the purpose of grants. The elementary aided schools are given substantial assistance by the Government in the form chiefly of a capitation grant on the monthly average attendance ; grants are also made for efficiency, for pupil teachers, needlework and agriculture, building and furniture. Because of the high cost of living which was universally felt, the Government made during the year 1920 special grants to the teachers, termed salary bonuses, in addition to the ordinary salaries for which the school managers are responsible. Married teachers with families have also been given family allowances at the same rate as that paid to Government officers. The total grants for the year 1920 amounted to \$40,339 (this includes salary bonuses for nine months, April to December, amounting to \$4,875, paid in June of 1920 ; the bonus for 1920, amounting to \$6,350 ; and the family allowances for 1920, amounting to \$1,783).

92. A small school fee is charged, but payment is not compulsory, and the total receipts are small—\$2,742 in 1920.

93. A compulsory attendance law was passed in the year 1915, and though at first limited in its scope, affecting Indian schools only, it has been gradually extended, until it now affects almost the whole Colony. The age for compulsory attendance is from six years to 12 years, except in Belize—the capital of the Colony—where it commences at six years and ends at 14 years. There are a few private elementary schools that receive no aid ; the proprietors do not choose to be under the Education Law and Rules. In these schools fees are exacted and range from 25 cents to \$1 per month.

94. The number of aided schools in the year under review was 58, with a total roll of 6,187 pupils—3,222 boys and 2,965 girls.

95. The average attendance was 4,558—2,404 boys and 2,154 girls. In the year 1894 the number of schools was 44, with a

total school roll of 3,228 and an average attendance of 2,251, and in 1915 there were 59 schools with a roll of 5,528 and an average attendance of 3,912.

96. Though the school roll and average attendance for the year 1920 are the highest on record, owing to the working of the Compulsory Attendance Law, the number of schools is less than in 1918, when there were 62. This is because of the difficulty of obtaining suitable teachers for the schools in Indian villages and small country places—for which reason some are frequently closed for long periods—and because there is as yet no training institution for teachers. Teachers are obtained by means of the pupil teacher system (which is not quite satisfactory for that purpose), and, occasionally, from the West Indies, chiefly Jamaica. The information concerning private unaided elementary schools is not complete. They show a school roll of about 288 and an average attendance of about 222.

SECONDARY.

97. Secondary schools, or schools within secondary departments, are denominational and unaided by the Government, except in the matter of a bonus paid for successful candidates at the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which Belize is a centre. The amount paid in 1920 was \$800. There were three schools in Belize in the year under review, with a roll of 476, 279 boys and 197 girls, and an average attendance of 411—235 boys and 176 girls. The ordinary rate of fees is \$3 per month. There were 34 candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations of December, 1920; 13 for preliminary, 20 for the junior, and one for the senior. Seventeen passed—nine in the preliminary and eight in the junior. The total number on roll for schools of all classes is 6,951 (3,627 boys and 3,324 girls), and the average attendance 5,191—2,736 boys and 2,455 girls. This would show that about 50 per cent. of the children of school age in the Colony are under instruction.

98. The expenditure for the year was \$54,095 (inclusive of the amount of \$4,875 for salary bonuses for nine months of the year 1919) in the aided schools and about \$15,000 in the others.

TECHNICAL.

99. Technical education is limited to the teaching of needle-work in girls' and mixed schools. There were two schools where school gardens were attempted.

100. For the purpose of furthering the agricultural development of the Colony, four lads who had passed through the elementary schools were selected and sent to the Farm School at Hope, in Jamaica, for a three years' course in agricultural training, at the expense of this Government.

101. There are no industrial schools.

76. The mahogany season commences in January, during which month the labourers are sent to their respective camps. During the dry season trees are felled and logs trucked to the nearest creeks, where they await the first flood (about June), when they can be floated down to deep water, ready for rafting and towing to Belize for shipment. The trucking is almost entirely effected by oxen. From June onwards a large proportion of the logs are conveyed to the water-side on slides, also drawn by oxen. The second period of high-water normally occurs in September.

77. The methods of extracting the logs from the forests are primitive, and the same applies to all methods of transport. Such mechanical devices as are used have resulted from necessity rather than from economic progress. Owing to lack of any forestry development work the haul from tree stump to water increases annually, and for this reason mechanical transport is gradually making its appearance.

78. Mahogany labourers are signed on for a period of about eleven months and their labour is effected on a task system which has evolved by custom and experience. The average wage during 1920 was \$16 to \$17 per mensem, plus a weekly ration of 4 lb. pork and 7 qts. flour. Owing to the inclusion of rations as part of a labourer's wage, the cost of living has not materially affected the cash wage.

79. Practically the whole of the Colony's timber is towed to Belize for shipment.

80. The largest private owners of mahogany forests are The Belize Estate and Produce Company, Ltd., who export about 3-4,000,000 sup. ft. annually. The bulk of the timber imported into the United States of America is purchased in Belize by American purchasing agents from local contractors.

81. During the commencement of the year European and United States of America prices offered a fair margin of profit, but during the latter part there was a big falling-off resulting in large stocks remaining unsold.

82. It is a remarkable fact that as yet no mahogany lumber is produced in Belize by any big or modern mill. Belize should be the centre of the Central American mahogany lumber trade with a large modern sawmill. The saving in ocean freight would be considerable.

83. Many new useful properties of mahogany lumber have been proved from the usages it was put to during the War, principally in the construction of aircraft, and it is probable that the demand for mahogany will increase in the near future, especially if more modern methods of extracting the logs and improved transport enable mahogany to compete with other woods inferior but at present more cheaply produced on the market.

SPONGE INDUSTRY.

84. Very little, if anything, has been done towards the development of the sponge industry in British Honduras. In a report received in 1921 from Mr. L. R. Crawshaw, the Research Officer appointed in connection with the Sponge Fishery Investigations in the West Indies, he says, *inter alia* :—"The superior quality of certain of the sponges which I received from you in April last points to the existence of a valuable fishery in British Honduras waters, which, having received little attention hitherto, calls for careful consideration on the part of the Government of the Colony as to the best steps to be taken for its development." Again, he says later on in the report :—"The wool and the velvet sponges especially which were sent to me, are undoubtedly of a superior quality, and if it be considered that the tendency of artificial cultivation of sponge is to the general improvement of stock, it may be regarded as very probable that much improvement of these qualities would be attained by it apart from consideration of increase."

85. Nothing has been done by the Government since the receipt of the above report, owing to the severe financial depression which started in towards the end of the financial year in March, 1921.

 IV. BANKS AND BANKING FACILITIES.

86. The Royal Bank of Canada (incorporated in 1869) is the only banking institution doing business in the Colony. They commenced business in December, 1912, when they took over the interests of the Bank of British Honduras. The only office is established in Belize. The bank has branches throughout the West Indies and is also represented in the important centres in South America and Europe. A savings account is conducted at the Belize branch. The bank does not issue currency notes in the Colony, the only notes in circulation being those of the British Honduras Government.

87. The Government Savings Bank is an old institution, and although not made use of to the extent that it might be, progresses slowly and has never gone backward. The amount due to depositors on 31st March, 1921, was \$163,158·40, as against \$158,340·85 at the end of the previous year of account.

88. There are five branches outside Belize—at the Sub-Treasury in each of the principal districts of the Colony.

89. The interest allowed is 3 per cent. Interest allowed to depositors in the Savings Branch of the Royal Bank of Canada is at the same rate.

VI. METEOROLOGICAL.

102. Summary of rainfall for Belize, British Honduras, during the year 1920 :—

Month.	Inches.	Days.	
January	3·78	19	Maximum temperature during year, 94 deg., April 14th.
February	1·80	4	
March	2·90	11	
April	·28	2	
May	·41	8	
June	10·37	20	Minimum temperature during year, 54·5 deg., February 7th.
July	8·05	19	
August	4·98	14	
September	7·25	20	
October	7·41	16	
November	19·45	17	
December	7·38	16	
	74·06	166	

Above readings taken at Belize at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., 90th meridian.

Average rainfall per annum, 69 inches.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS.

RAILWAY.

103. There is a railway 25 miles in length located in the Stann Creek Valley. At the Stann Creek terminus there is a deep-water pier alongside of which cargo steamers can lie.

104. The revenue for the year ending 31st December was \$20,574, and the expenditure \$41,708·21. No provision is made for depreciation. The total goods carried during the year were 522 tons of general freight, 333,008 bunches of bananas, 46,675 plantains, 94,028 feet of lumber. The number of passengers carried was 6,056.

105. The carrying capacity of the permanent way and rolling stock is largely in excess of the above, but owing to the appearance of Panama disease in the banana farms, areas of cultivation have been abandoned and transport over the railway has consequently fallen to a very large extent.

ROADS.

106. The total length of roads in the Colony is estimated to be 700 miles; of this length only about 30 miles have been metalled. The roads are merely developments of the forest

trails ; they are unsuitable for wheel traffic, and during the wet season are frequently almost impassable. During 1920-1921 a beginning was made to metal some of the roads in the northern and southern districts, where there are some sugar estates. It is extremely difficult in many districts of the Colony to obtain suitable material for road-making, and the cost of construction is consequently very high.

RIVERS.

107. Many of the rivers, especially in the southern half of the Colony, are navigable for small craft, and the bulk of the produce brought to the coast towns and of the timber exported from the Colony is river-borne. The rivers most used are kept fairly clear of obstacles to navigation.

PUBLIC WORKS.

108. No public works of any magnitude were executed during the year. Schemes, accompanied by the necessary drawings and estimates, for the improvement of the inner harbour and the rebuilding of the Government offices were submitted to the Legislative Council.

SHIPPING.

109. The number and tonnage of vessels, steam and sail, which entered at ports in the Colony during 1920 was 571 and 267,064 tons, and cleared 579 and 266,138 respectively. In 1919 the figures were :—Entered, 597 vessels of 153,699 tons ; and cleared, 609 vessels of 150,842 tons.

POSTAL, RADIO-TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

110. Mails are conveyed by the steamers of the United Fruit Company between New Orleans and Belize, and Mobile and Belize alternately, about once a week. Letters and prints for the United Kingdom and other places are forwarded by this means. An exchange of parcels is maintained between the United Kingdom and the Colony by a monthly service performed by the Harrison Line Steamers, which sail from Liverpool. Parcels for the republics of Guatemala and Honduras are sent in transit through Belize by this line. Communication with these southern republics is maintained by steamers of the United Fruit Company and sailing boats. The Colony is in weekly communication with Payo Obispo, Mexico, *via* Corozal. A radio-telegraph station in touch with Swan Island receives and transmits Government and commercial messages. Improvements to enable direct communication with Jamaica have been approved but not yet carried out.

TELEPHONE.

111. There are 500 miles of trunk lines with 30 offices. The charge for telegrams is 25 cents for the first 15 words, and one cent for every additional word. Telephone calls are charged for at

the rate of 30 cents for every five minutes. During the War no increase was made. In Belize there is one exchange with 250 subscribers. Outside communication *via* Payo Obispo is made overland through Mexico.

VIII. CLIMATE.

112. The climate of British Honduras has the reputation of being a very unhealthy one, but facts show that far from being very unhealthy the climate compares not very unfavourably with that of other tropical colonies with small European populations.

113. Leaving out 1918, in which year there was an epidemic of influenza, the death-rate taken over a number of years approximates to 26 per 1,000, and over one-fifth of this number of deaths occurs in children under one year of age, who more often than not die through the neglect of their parents and not on account of the unhealthiness of the climate. It may be of interest to compare the main vital statistics of the Colony during 1920 with those recorded 30 years ago, when the estimated population was 30,000 people. The comparison appears from the following table :—

District.	BIRTHS.		MARRIAGES.		DEATHS.	
	1890.	1920.	1890.	1920.	1890.	1920.
Belize	435	701	137	172	356	362
Northern	404	510	138	138	536	317
Cayo	97	258	11	47	138	127
Stann Creek	89	232	39	38	79	122
Toledo	106	282	30	102	73	173
The Colony	1,131	1,983	355	497	1,182	1,101

114. In this table may be sought and perhaps found a reason for the prevalent idea outside of this Colony that British Honduras is very unhealthy. Thirty years ago the population was 30,000, and the death rate nearly 40 per 1,000; to-day the population is 45,000 and the death-rate is about 25 per 1,000. It is feared that the old saying, "Give a dog a bad name and hang him," applies to British Honduras, and those who live in British Honduras wonder how many more years will elapse before the generality of people outside of the Colony will realise that for Europeans leading a normal life and taking common precautions the climate of British Honduras will be found salubrious, pleasant and healthy.

115. The mean maximum shade temperature is 90 deg., the mean minimum 62 deg. Breezes from the sea prevail for the greater part of the year. The average rainfall is about 81 in. per annum. From the middle of February to the middle of May is the dry season. For the rest of the year rain falls every month, the heaviest rainfall being in the months of September, October and November, during which months about one-third of the total rain occurs.

IX. FORESTS.

116. *General*.—The forest industry is the main industry of the country. The forests of British Honduras are being investigated by a qualified Forestry Officer, whose report will be published in due course.

117. *Mahogany*.—A large portion of the mahogany forests is on private lands. Mahogany has been worked heavily during the last few years on account of high prices, and several remote forests which were considered to be unworkable before, on account of long distances and great cost of transport, could be and were exploited during the time when the price of mahogany was high. A considerably smaller output must be anticipated with falling prices. The natural stock of mahogany is gradually but slowly decreasing. There is no Forest Department. Investigations show that with proper forest conservancy the stock could be increased considerably and that there would be good prospects in the not distant future for firms with a large capital who wish to get concessions for long periods for exploiting timber on a big scale. The forestry industry is less suited for people of small capital and for working a short time only.

118. *Pines*.—One-third of the area of the Colony is covered by pine forests. A large proportion of them is on private lands. The exploitation of the pine forests on Crown land, with a few exceptions, was granted to a company 16 years ago; this concession expires in nine years hence.

119. The pine forest of the Riversdale Estate, which is offered by the Government for sale, is estimated to contain about 200,000 pine trees of marketable size; it is one of the best pine forests of the Colony. The pine in question is *Pinus Cubensis*. The wood is of a good lasting quality and contains plenty of resin. The total height of large trees is about 100 ft.

120. *Sapodilla*.—There are large areas containing many thousand sapodilla trees from the gum of which, called chicle, the famous chewing gum so extensively used in the United States, is manufactured.

121. *Other Woods*.—There are numerous other woods of good quality, which have remained neglected hitherto and might be exploited. The more important ones are :—

Rosewood (*Dalbergia Sp.*).

Santa Maria (*Calophyllum Calaba*).

Billy Webb.

Cabbage Bark (*Andira Sp.*).

Bullet Tree (or "Black" Bullet Tree).

Nargusta (or "Red" Bullet Tree).

Yemerí.

Black Poisonwood (wood *not* poisonous).

Banak.

Balsa Woods.

X. OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

122. There is no official handbook of British Honduras. Mr. W. R. Dunlop's Agricultural Report can be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1, England.

MAX. SMITH,

Colonial Secretary.

12th December, 1921

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	1919
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hong Kong	"
1109	British Guiana	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

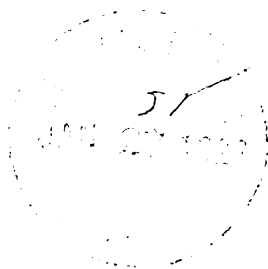
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No. 1111.

MALTA.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1055.)



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No. 1111.

MALTA.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1055.)

THE PALACE, VALLETTA.

6th February, 1922.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following General Report* for the year 1920-21.

HISTORY.

1. The Maltese Islands once formed part of one of the land-bridges between North Africa and Southern Europe when the Mediterranean was represented by a series of fresh-water lakes. The connexion of the Islands with both continents is proved both by geological observation and by the numerous remains of extinct animals, ruminants and pachyderms, which lived on the Islands during the periods of glaciation of middle Europe.

2. The Maltese Islands were inhabited as early as the beginning of the Mousterian cultural period, about 40,000 B.C. by Neanderthal man, of whom remains were discovered in a cave to the South-East of Malta. Neanderthal man was coeval with the large pachyderms, and became extinct at the end of the fourth glacial epoch. Traces of paleolithic civilization are not wanting in the Islands, but there is not material enough to state definitely how far this early settlement extended.

3. If the tracing of the evolution of paleolithic age is difficult, we find in the Islands a neolithic civilization in the fullest bloom ever known in any part of the world. Cave dwellings, stone circles, menhirs and dolmens are found all over the Islands, but the most remarkable buildings are the elaborate megalithic sanctuaries and a wonderful hypogeum, the workmanship of stone age. Flint implements, stone and clay statuettes, personal

* Sketch maps will be found in the Report for 1914-1915. [Cd. 7622-45].

ornaments of shell and polished hard stones, denote a prosperous and an enlightened population, and a collection of the finest pottery in existence testifies to high artistic attainments. The neolithic period may well be called the golden age of the Maltese Islands.

4. The Bronze Age of Malta must have been short and in fact we find it merged at an early date with Phœnician activity. The Phœnicians must have taken possession of Malta as soon as they made themselves masters of the Mediterranean Sea, about 1500 B.C. In Phœnician remains the Island is not rich, but numerous rock-cut Sydonian graves denote the adoption of Phœnician customs among the population. The Carthaginians, natural heirs of the Phœnicians, occupied the Island down to the second Punic War. Under their domination the Maltese must have greatly prospered and increased in numbers, so that, when the Romans, in 242 B.C., took official possession of Malta and the other Mediterranean Islands, they found a thriving population, for whom a special set of coins were struck bearing Phœnician symbols with Roman or Greek inscriptions. Rome held sway over Malta for more than a thousand years. The monuments and the inscriptions of this period show evidence of Roman institutions worked by Roman officials. The burial customs remained those of Carthage but modified by Roman and especially by Christian ideas. Thus we see the Sydonian graves evolved into elaborate catacombs. That St. Paul was really shipwrecked in Malta is not proved solely by tradition, but is demonstrated by the numerous Christian catacombs cut during the Roman dominations.

5. The fall of the Roman Empire may well have brought the Visigoths to Malta, but of this there is no proof, and the Saracens, who seized the Islands in A.D. 870 and kept them for two centuries, were the next recorded rulers.

6. The Saracens left scarcely a trace of their presence in Malta, no mosques, no coins, no pottery, so that it is probable that the Island, like so many other small places conquered by the Moors, was simply garrisoned and burdened with a tax.

7. In 1090, Count Roger the Norman with a handful of men, subjected the Islands to Sicily. The Sicilian domination lasted for four hundred years, when Norman, Angevine, Aragonese, and Castilian ruled in turn. During this time, Malta had Sicilian Governors and laws, but there is no record of any extensive Sicilian immigration, and the persistence of the old semitic names in the parish registers, instituted at this period, stands as further evidence that no great ethnographic changes occurred.

8. The connexion with Sicily was broken in 1530, when Charles V. of Spain ceded Malta to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who held it until the beginning of the 19th century. For the first time the Islands were ruled from within, and the Maltese had a chance of throwing their luck in with that of their sovereigns. Their loyalty was put to a severe test on several

occasions, the most notable being the great siege of 1565, when the Order of St. John, under Grand Master Jean de la Valette, resisted the attacks of the land and sea forces of Solymán the Magnificent. It was after this great feat of arms that the city of Valletta was built, strong enough to defy the Turkish attacks threatened yearly by the Sultan, who could not accept defeat at the hands of an Order of Christian Knights. It was not Solymán, however, but time and the French Revolution that caused the Order to decay and crumble down to dust.

9. Napoleon Bonaparte invested the Island on his way to Egypt, having prepared the ground by intrigue and revolutionary propaganda, and, on 12th July, 1798, Ferdinand de Hompesch, the last Grand Master in Malta, capitulated without any resistance.

10. The French installed themselves as masters of the Islands, but their interference with Maltese laws and customs brought about a sharp reaction, and the natives drove the French troops within the fortified towns and, with the help of the British fleet, held them closely blockaded for two years, after which the French, reduced to extremities, surrendered to the British. A period of uncertainty ensued when the French tried to reinstate the Knights against the wish of the Maltese. The treaty of Amiens, however, was put aside by the recommencement of the War between Great Britain and France, at the end of which the treaty of Paris of 1814 was signed, by which the Maltese Islands were annexed to the British Crown.

GOVERNMENT.

11. Under the terms of Royal Letters Patent issued in 1893 the Governor was assisted in the administration by two Councils. One styled the Council of Government, consisted of ten Official Members, heads of the principal departments, and eight members elected by a limited constituency, the islands being divided for this purpose into eight districts, each of which returned one member. There was also an Executive Council composed of the official members of the Council of Government, with the addition of two of the Elected Members of that Council, proposed by the Governor and appointed by the Secretary of State. For several years petitions were put forward by the Elected members of the Council for a revision of the terms of the Letters Patent and the grant of a Constitution which would provide for responsible government on a democratic basis. The question engaged the attention of His Majesty's Government, and a project for the establishment of a responsible government was framed and put forward for consideration early in the year 1920. A decision was reached on the subject by His Majesty's Government early in 1921, and shortly after the close of the year now under review, viz., on the 14th of April, 1921, Royal Letters Patent were issued embodying the terms of a New Constitution, and providing for its coming into force when proclaimed in Malta by the

Governor. The necessary preliminary arrangements being made, the new Constitution came into effect on the 16th of May, 1921. The principal features of the Constitution are as follows :—

The Legislature consists of two Houses—the Senate, and the Legislative Assembly. The Senate is composed of seventeen members, ten of whom are “Special Members” representing the Clergy, the Nobility, the Graduates, the Chamber of Commerce and the Trade Union Council, the other seven being elected by a special electorate composed of male British subjects over 21 years of age who are able to read and write, and who either pay £20 a year in rent or are in possession of £20 a year from real property in Malta, or other capital. The Legislative Assembly consists of 32 members, returned in groups of four by each of the eight electoral districts into which the Island is divided. Any male British subject who is over 21 years of age, and who either can read or write, or is in receipt of an income of £5 a year in rent may vote in a constituency. No person on full pay in the Navy, Army, and Air Force, maintained out of Imperial funds, is entitled to the vote unless he has a legal domicile in Malta. The method of voting is that of Proportional Representation under the system of the single transferable vote.

12. The Maltese Legislature may not pass laws touching the public safety and defence of the Empire or the general interest of British subjects outside Malta. In addition to this general reservation, certain subjects are specifically withheld from its legislative competence.

13. The Governor is assisted by two Councils—an Executive Council consisting of such of the Ministers as he selects and a Nominated Council consisting of the Lieutenant-Governor and Legal Adviser (who are *ex-officio* members) and three Officers chosen from the Navy, Army, and Air Force. The Governor may summon these two Councils to sit together as the “Privy Council of Malta.” When any legislative or administrative act is done or proposed which, in the Governor’s opinion, affects a reserved matter, he may submit the consideration of it to a Joint Committee consisting of three members of the Nominated Council appointed by himself, and three members of the Executive Council appointed by the Head of the Ministry.

14. Full liberty of conscience and freedom of worship are guaranteed by the Constitution.

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, SOCIAL CONDITIONS, &c.

15. Most of the trade and business of Malta is centred round the two principal Harbours. The Grand Harbour, which is protected by a breakwater, provides anchorage for the largest ships, and on its shores are situated the large Naval Establishments of His Majesty’s Dockyard, the Custom House with bonded and

other stores, and various merchant warehouses. The Marsamuscetto Harbour, which adjoins it, has not been equally developed, but it is largely used by His Majesty's Navy as a base for destroyers, and also provides berths for several ocean liners. The Lazzaretto Creek in this harbour is used as a quarantine station for ships, the Segregation Hospital and quarantine buildings being situated on the adjoining island of Manel.

16. Beside these harbours stand the fortified towns, Valletta, Floriana, and what are known as the Three Cities, Vittoriosa, Senglea, and Cospicua or Burmola. Valletta, the capital, was founded in 1566 after the great siege by Grand Master La Valette and became the headquarters of the Knights of St. John, replacing the old capital Citta Notabile. To the Knights is owed the construction of the Palace, the numerous Auberges of the various nations represented in the Order, and the majestic Cathedral of St. John.

17. About one-fourth of the entire population of the Island is congregated in these towns, while nearly one-third reside in the casals or villages in the vicinity which constitute the suburban area. Apart from the Naval Dockyard, there are no large industries. Cigarette manufacture gives employment to a considerable number of people, and a large number are engaged in trade. The majority, however, are unskilled labourers, for whom the problem of finding a livelihood presents a constant difficulty.

18. The remaining five-twelfths of the population are distributed in numerous casals throughout the Island and find their occupation in agriculture, which constitutes the principal industry of both Islands. Agricultural holdings are for the most part small, and the crops produced are designed for local consumption. All the land suitable for farming is closely cultivated; a good deal of wheat and barley is grown, and there is a fair production of wine.

19. The principal cottage industry is weaving, cloth being manufactured from locally-grown cotton, supplemented by imported Egyptian cotton, which is used exclusively for clothing. The staple food of the Islands is bread, and for this it depends largely upon importation, the wheat produced in a year being sufficient only to supply requirements for about three months. The price of wheat and flour ruled high during the year under review, and, although a substantial subsidy was granted by Government, the cost of the loaf remained on the average about twice that usual before the War. The reduction of Naval and Military Establishments and the general stagnation of trade resulted in the closing of many avenues for employment, and want and distress have been prevalent throughout the Island for the past two years. In Malta, where so large a proportion of the population depends for its existence on occupation or employment, which under the most favourable circumstances brings but an insignificant remuneration, any increase in the cost of necessities must always be severely felt.

20. The population, which is now almost a quarter of a million, exceeds the number that can, under existing industrial conditions, find an adequate livelihood within the islands, and emigration on an extensive scale is essential. A department has been organized to deal with this question. Industrious, thrifty, and religious, the Maltese make excellent colonists.

VITAL STATISTICS.

21. The civil population on 1st April, 1921, was 213,024.

22. The number of births in the last two years was as follows:—

		1919-20.			1920-21.
Males ..	..	3,525	..	..	4,142
Females ..	..	3,262	..	..	3,671
		<hr/>			<hr/>
Total ..		6,787			7,813

23. The birth-rate for the year was 31·98 per mille as compared with 31·69 per mille in the previous year. The average birth-rate for the past ten years was 31·22 per mille.

24. The number of deaths was as follows:—

		1919-20.			1920-21.
Males ..	..	2,340	..	..	2,342
Females ..	..	2,246	..	..	2,242
		<hr/>			<hr/>
Total ..		4,586	..	..	4,584

25. The death-rate in 1920-21 was 21·51 per mille, as against 20·39 in 1919-20, while the average death-rate for the past decade was 22·75 per mille.

26. The death-rate among children under twelve months was 224·11 per 1,000 births, as against 220·42 in the previous year. The death-rate of children under five years was 90·82 per 1,000 of the population at that age as compared with 84·90 per 1,000 in the previous year. There were 1,637 marriages, as compared with 2,038 in the previous twelve months.

27. During the period under review there was a subsidence of influenza; there was, however, an epidemic rise in the incidence of scarlet fever, characterised by an unusual proportion of very mild abortive attacks. The mortality at ages 0-10 from acute nephritis rose to 52 from 15 in the previous twelve months. It is noteworthy that concurrently with the progress of scarlatina, there was a marked increase in notified cases of erysipelas and of child-bed infections.

28. Another feature of the medical history of the year was a sharp outbreak of tonsillitis amongst the adult population in the towns and immediate suburbs of Malta. According to the intensity and depth attained by the inflammatory process, the local symptoms were those of simple catarrhal erythema with

lacunar or more extensive patches of whitish or dirty-looking exudation, with or without necrosis and ulceration of the mucosa and formation of intratonsillary abscess. The disease was more protracted and the functional symptoms more severe in persons with chronic enlargement of the tonsils and of the pharyngeal lymphatic tissue. No deaths were registered except in a case in which septicæmic symptoms supervened.

29. Nine cases of encephalitis lethargica were reported; two were very mild attacks; three cases were attended with fatal results.

EMIGRATION.

30. The number of emigrants who left Malta or Gozo during the period from the 1st April, 1920, to the 31st March, 1921, was 6,186, bringing the total number of emigrants (from the 11th November, 1918) up to 11,787. Of these 3,838 returned, and, in a certain number of cases, went back to the country to which they had originally proceeded.

31. The flow of emigration was mainly to the United States of America, and the number of men, women, and children who left for that country during the period under review was 2,768. The crisis which overtook the American labour market and the new Immigration Restriction law have practically arrested emigration to the States.

32. The emigrants to Australia during the year were 278, principally men of the farming class, selected for fine physique, and equipped with a colloquial knowledge of English.

33. Although scant encouragement is given to immigrants into Canada, the number who proceeded thither during the period under review was 125.

34. Other countries, such as the United Kingdom, France, Egypt, and the Barbary States, attracted 3,015 individuals from the two Islands, but present conditions in those countries are not favourable for permanent settlement, and most of the emigrants returned home after a brief interval.

35. No emigrants are allowed to leave these Islands unless they fulfil all the requirements of the Immigration Laws of the country to which they desire to proceed.

FINANCIAL.

36. The revenue of the year 1920–21, inclusive of the Imperial Grant of £250,000, amounted to £1,063,742, and the expenditure to £1,060,664, including £238,918 paid for Bread Subsidy, leaving a balance in favour of revenue of £3,078, which, added to the accumulated balance remaining on the 31st March, 1920, viz.: £61,772, leaves the excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1921, at £64,850.

37. The gross revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows :—

YEAR.	REVENUE.	EXPENDITURE.	SURPLUS OR DEFICIT OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE.
	£	£	£
1916-17 ..	460,165	462,469	— 2,304
1917-18 ..	470,976	484,726	— 13,750
1918-19 ..	615,225	601,033	+ 14,192
1919-20 ..	650,489	632,233	+ 18,256
1920-21 ..	1,063,742*	1,060,664†	+ 3,078

REVENUE.

38. The revenue for 1920-21, exclusive of the Imperial Grant of £250,000, shows an increase over that of 1919-20 of £163,254.

EXPENDITURE.

39. The total expenditure exclusive of the amount paid for Bread Subsidy was £821,746, showing an increase, as compared with that for 1919-20, of £189,513.

40. The assets and liabilities of the Government at the close of the year, and at the close of 1919-20 were as follows :—

YEAR.	ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.	SURPLUS.
	£	£	£
1919-20 ..	1,343,446	1,281,674	61,772
1920-21 ..	1,148,922	1,084,072	64,850
Decrease ..	£194,524	£197,602	—
Increase ..	—	—	£3,078

41. The value of British and Colonial Securities held by Government on General Account and on account of the Savings Bank, calculated at the market prices on the 31st March, 1921, shows a depreciation of £215,398. The Depreciation Fund stands at £147,211.

CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION.

42. The amount of British Treasury paper currency notes in circulation on 31st March, 1921, was roughly estimated at £700,000.

43. The amount of British gold, silver, and bronze coins in circulation cannot be ascertained.

SAVINGS BANK.

44. The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st March, 1921, was 8,357, and the amount standing to their credit,

* Including the Imperial grant of £250,000.

† Including £238,918 paid for Bread Subsidy.

including deposits on account of the Prize Court, was £770,385, of which £730,949 was invested in British and Colonial securities and in London Banks.

45. The deposits made during the year amounted to £317,250, and the withdrawals to £347,583, as against £295,693 and £240,342 respectively in 1919-20.

46. The revenue derived from interest on invested funds, unappropriated interest, and sale of passbooks, was £29,729, whilst the expenses of management and interest to depositors amounted to £15,551, leaving a net profit of £14,178.

BANKS.

47. There are now five banks in the island—a branch of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Ltd., a branch of the Banco di Roma, the Anglo-Maltese Bank, the Bank of Malta, and a branch of the Cr dit Foncier d'Alg rie et de Tunisie.

48. As there is no law compelling banks to publish their balance sheets, it is impossible to ascertain the amount of business done by each bank.

49. There is also a Government Savings Bank, which accepts deposits from 1s. upwards, and pays interest at the rate of 2 per cent. on amounts of £500 or less.

TRADE.

50. The total value of the imports of merchandise, including the value of goods entered by parcel post and excluding bullion and goods imported for transshipment, was £5,857,325, as compared with £4,261,745 in 1919-20, showing an increase of £1,595,580.

IMPORTS.

51. The value of imports during the year was £2,523,963, which is above the average for the past three years.

EXPORTS.

52. The value of exports amounted to £1,602,294, as against £918,588 in 1919-20, an increase of £683,706; food, drink, and tobacco account for £246,648 of the total, raw materials for £1,187,963, manufactured articles for £103,444, and miscellaneous exports for the remainder.

SHIPPING.

53. The number of British steamers which called at Malta during the year 1920 was 492 (tonnage 1,195,266), foreign steamers 544 (tonnage 886,077).

54. The orders placed abroad were limited in expectation of a fall in prices.

55. The present situation and immediate prospects may be summarised as follows :—

Foodstuffs.—The consumption was normal, as far as staple commodities were concerned, but owing to fluctuations in the market, especially as regards sugar, flour, coffee and rice, considerable stocks were not kept, and imports were limited to hand-to-mouth requirements.

Textiles.—The importation of textiles in general began to decline towards the end of 1919, and the decrease was acute throughout the year 1920. There has been, however, an improvement since the beginning of 1921.

Hardware and Materials for the Building Trade.—The trade in these goods was much below the normal.

Shipping.—Although the shipping trade, as compared with that of the previous year, showed slight recovery, the figures were far below those of pre-war times.

AGRICULTURE.

56. The total area of land under cultivation was 42,891 acres, as against 42,860 in the previous year, while the area of uncultivated land was estimated at 3,800 acres, as against 3,830 in 1919-20.

57. At the end of the year the number of holdings was estimated at 11,100, the same as in 1919-20. The land is parcelled out into small holdings of an average extent of 3·86 acres each. The owners, or occupiers, of such small holdings must necessarily supplement their slender earnings by some other trade. Holdings of 30 acres and upwards are very few. Where it is not cultivated by the owner the land is generally granted on short leases for four years, and this system is a bar to important improvements, as few tenants care to expend money on improvements which they may have no chance to exploit during tenure of short duration. However, renewals of lease to the same holder are frequent, and the land is sometimes also granted on long lease, with a view to induce the cultivator to spend money on permanent and extensive improvements.

58. The present price of unirrigated land of fairly good quality is about £180 per acre. Specially good unirrigated land may fetch as much as £240 per acre. The price of irrigated land varies from £350 to £450 per acre according to quality.

59. The principal agricultural products were wheat, barley, "mischiato" (a mixture of both), forages, potatoes, onions, beans and vegetables. The total area under cereals was 18,297 acres, as compared with 20,498 acres in 1919-20. The total yield was :—Wheat, 38,237 quarters; barley, 20,075 quarters; and "mischiato," 11,955 quarters.

60. The area under beans (broad beans) was 1,868 acres, against 2,295 acres in 1919-20, and the total yield was 4,562 quarters, as compared with 4,192 quarters in the previous year.

The area planted with potatoes was 2,350 acres, as against 2,752 acres in 1919–20, and the total yield was 14,850 tons, as compared with 16,940 tons in 1919–20. The quantity of imported potatoes which were planted during 1920–21 was 1,401 tons

61. The area on which onions were grown was 699 acres, a decrease of 221 acres as compared with the previous year. The yield amounted to 1,438 tons, or 1,401 tons less than in 1919–20.

62. Cummin was grown on 184 acres, and the produce was estimated at 373 cwt.

63. The total quantity of citrus fruits gathered is estimated at 75,080 dozen, as compared with 141,645 in 1919–20. This great fall in production was due mainly to unfavourable weather at the close of December, 1919, and in the following spring. The products of local orange groves were supplemented by fruit from Sicily, about 664,847 dozen oranges having been imported.

64. Other fruit trees are planted on 2,514 acres of land, and the total production has been estimated at 61,716 cwt., including 43,322 cwt. of grapes.

65. The prolonged drought in the winter 1919–20 considerably affected the production of fruit in general and of grapes in particular, the consequence being that the quantity of wine produced amounted to only 31,200 barili (or 280,800 Imperial gallons).

66. New centres of infection of Phylloxera were detected in both Islands. In order to avoid delay in the reconstitution of the vineyards which had suffered from this pest, 130,000 rootlings of American vines suitable for the soil and climate of Malta, including 2,100 grafted plants, were imported from Italy at a cost of £3,329. These were distributed free of charge amongst growers, together with a small quantity of rootlings and cuttings of American Vines obtained from the American Vine Nurseries established at the close of last year.

67. Forage was grown on 13,554 acres, as against 10,569 acres in the previous year. The production, estimated at 337,065 "some," or loads of ten bundles each, was one of the best on record.

68. The area under vegetables was 1,768 acres, and the production was estimated at 114,655 cwt. This figure includes both dry-farmed vegetables and vegetables grown on irrigated land. Dry-farming, however, had to contend with exceptional difficulties, owing to the excessively dry condition of the soil and subsoil during the spring and summer.

69. The year may be described as a good one for all field crops which commenced to develop with the autumnal rains in October, and had, therefore, the advantage of the very satisfactory rainfall throughout the winter and spring; but it was a bad one for all arboricultural crops maturing after April, 1920, and for all dry-farmed crops throughout the spring and summer of that year, owing to the shortage of rain in the preceding season. This scarcity of rain was favourable to the development of insect-life,

Phylloxera being particularly virulent throughout the two seasons. On the other hand, the prolonged wet weather of last winter and spring, with its long spells of moist southerly winds, caused serious outbreaks of cryptogamic diseases. Potato-blight was rife from March to May, and the early spring crop was partly destroyed. Since the outbreak of 1915, the downy mildew of the vine had appeared only in a sporadic form, but during the year atmospheric conditions caused a virulent outbreak, which proved very injurious to the vineyards of both islands.

FISHERIES.

70. The fishing industry in these islands is almost wholly dependent on inshore fishing: the craft in use consisting of 910 boats, being unsuitable for deep-sea fishing. The total number of fishermen is about 3,500. Owing to the wholesale destruction of immature fish, the industry has suffered considerably during recent years, but energetic steps have now been taken by the Government to avert this evil. The use of explosives for catching fish became a common practice after the construction of the breakwaters, but owing to police action the practice has practically been stopped. Regulations issued by the Government for the control of fisheries have also had beneficial results. This has been observed especially in the case of mature sardines, which were scarce during the last eighteen years, but are now plentiful.

71. Approximately 15,200 cwt. of fish were taken during the year, the total price fetched being about £77,700. The principal species were dogfish, angel-fish, rays, conger, murrey, forkbeards, grey mullets, streaked-smare, dentex, pandora, Egyptian sargo, bogue, box salpa, black-tailed bream, red mullets, stone-basse, dusky perch, Spanish mackerel, tunny fish, pilot fish, *Seriola dumerili*, horse mackerel and corephene.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

UNIVERSITY.

72. The average number of students attending the University in 1920-21 was 130, one more than in 1919-20.

73. The cost of the University, including the Botanic Gardens, was £8,896 and the revenue £1,609; the average cost per student was £50 8s. 5d., as compared with £30 12s. 10d. in the previous year. The increase is due to the fact that the salaries of the Teaching Staff have been increased.

74. In virtue of a decision arrived at by the Special Board of Trustees of the Rhodes' Scholarships, a Rhodes' Scholarship of £300 a year at the University of Oxford is awarded every three years to a student of the University of Malta.

75. A scholarship known as the "Aubrey Causton Strachan Scholarship" was founded by Mrs. Strachan in memory of her son, Lieutenant Strachan, who died in the War.

76. Representatives were sent by the Malta University to the Congress of the Universities of the Empire held under the auspices of the home Universities.

77. The Statute of the University and the regulations were revised during the year.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

78. There are three Government Secondary Schools, viz.:—The Lyceum for Boys, the Secondary School for Girls in Valletta, and the Secondary School for Boys in Gozo.

79. The number on the rolls in the Lyceum Day School was 307, while the evening classes in marine and electrical engineering were attended by 198 students, and the commercial evening classes by 274 (boys and girls).

80. The Secondary School for Girls was attended by 226 students, as against 186 in the previous year.

81. There were 44 pupils in regular attendance at the Secondary School for Boys in Gozo.

The average cost of each student was—

Lyceum	£4 13s. 6d.
Secondary School, Malta	£3 11s. 7d.
Secondary School, Gozo.. ..	£7 19s. 2d.

82. At the Lyceum entrance examination held on 20th September, 1920, 129 candidates were presented, of whom 51 passed a competitive test.

83. Twenty Lyceum scholarships were awarded to pupils coming from other schools.

84. The Lyceum presented 23 candidates for the Oxford Local Examinations in July, 1920; 22 passed, 5 with Honours.

85. Other examinations at which Lyceum students compete are those of the London Chamber of Commerce and of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

86. Commercial evening classes in the Lyceum (comprising classes in book-keeping, commerce, shorthand and typewriting, French and practical mathematics) were attended on an average by 274 students, of whom 90 were girls.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

87. During the scholastic year, from 15th September, 1919, to 14th September, 1920, the number of Government day schools was 102, viz.:—43 boys' schools (34 in Malta, 9 in Gozo) and 16 infant schools (15 in Malta and 1 in Gozo). The girls' schools generally included infant divisions.

88. The daily average number of children on the registers was 19,595 (10,481 boys and 9,114 girls) and the average attendance 16,407 (8,874 boys and 7,533 girls). The percentage of the average attendance to the average number on the registers was 84·2. The figures for the previous year were 20,291, 16,329 and 80·4 respectively.

89. The number of new admissions during the year was 2,146 (1,100 boys and 1,046 girls), and the number of withdrawals 4,359 (2,088 boys and 2,271 girls).

90. Continuation classes for boys preparing for secondary education, marine and electric engineering courses, and Dockyard examinations, were held in fourteen centres, and were attended by 297 students, with an average attendance of 186.

91. There were 37 night schools (28 in Malta and 9 in Gozo) with a daily average enrolment of 1,531 and an average attendance of 849. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,480 and 705.

92. The local training courses were attended by 41 male students and 221 students of the other sex, as compared with 37 and 177 respectively in 1919-20.

93. The total expenditure on elementary education during the financial year 1920-21 was £55,961, as compared with £45,374 in 1919-20.

94. Calculated on the average number of scholars on the registers, the average annual cost per head was £2 12s. 11d. and calculated on the average attendance £3 4s. 10d.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

95. The Charitable Institutions maintained by the Government are six Hospitals, an Orphanage, a Lunatic Asylum, a Poor House, and an Industrial School, 28 Government Dispensaries, an establishment where money is advanced with certain limitations on pledges, and an Office for assaying, stamping and valuing manufactured jewellery. Other branches of the charitable service are pecuniary out-door relief, gratuitous midwifery assistance, and burials in necessitous cases. Government subsidies are also granted to certain charitable institutions run by private bodies or individuals.

96. The cost of Government charities for the past ten years has been gradually increasing. In 1920-21 it amounted to £136,935, as against £66,355 in 1911-12 and £119,796 in 1919-20.

97. The cost of living reached during the year the highest figure yet recorded in Malta. The Statistics of the "Monte di Pieta," which are considered to be a reliable index of the financial condition of the country, show that the sum of £57,469 was advanced on 31,509 pledges in 1920-21, as against £39,182 advanced on 22,553 pledges in 1919-20.

98. *Connaught Hospital*.—The number of patients who received treatment for Pulmonary Tuberculosis at this Hospital was 239, of whom 51 were discharged at their own request, 16 as cured, 7 as "improved," while those that died amounted to 85, leaving 80 in hospital on 31st March, 1921. Tuberculin is used in the diagnosis and treatment of the disease, but the percentage of cures is not high because, as a rule, the disease

is far advanced when patients seek admission to this Hospital. Of the 161 cases admitted, 8 were in the first stage, 12 in the second and third stage, and 141 in the last stage of the disease.

99. *Lepet Hospital*.—Compulsory segregation of lepers is enforced under the existing law, the sexes being kept separate. Patients that do not show signs of progress of the disease clinically and give constant negative bacteriological results are discharged, subject to control and periodical examination by the Leprosy Board.

100. Compulsory segregation has been general since 1912. The highest number of lepers recorded was 112 in 1917, since when there has been a gradual decrease. On the 31st March, 1921, the number of lepers was 81, 49 males and 32 females. Reckoning on these figures, the incidence of leprosy is 35 to 100,000.

101. Injections of Collaboise Chaulmoogra were for some time used on a large scale, but the results were not satisfactory. These have been superseded during the year by Sir Leonard Robers' injections of Sodium Morrhuate prepared from cod liver oil. Forty-seven patients have been so treated, and, after some months, improvement has in a few cases been observed in the anæsthetic, mixed, and tubercular types. Marked improvement has been observed in some cases, and in a few instances hopes are entertained of a permanent cure.

102. *Lunatic Asylum*.—The average number of patients in this Asylum was 792, as against 773 in the previous year.

103. The rate of insanity in these islands was 32·9 per 10,000 on 1st April, 1921. This rate is slightly higher than the ratio of reported lunatics, idiots, and persons of unsound mind to the population in England and Wales on 1st January, 1921, which is 31·14 per 10,000.

104. The Asylum death-rate was 5·1 per cent. for 1919-20, and 6·4 per cent. for 1920-21 on daily average number of inmates. Both these rates compare favourably with the death-rate in English asylums, which, according to latest data available, was 12·55 per cent. in 1919.

105. The primary causes of death at the Asylum during the year 1920-21 were as follows :—

106. Tuberculosis (including phthisis), 2; senility and arterial sclerosis, 1; organic heart disease, 17; epilepsy, 9; renal disease, 2; organic brain disease, 3; and other causes (including cancer), 17.

107. It is gratifying to record the absence of asylum dysentery, general paralysis, pneumonia, influenza, and enteric, and there were two cases only of tubercle of lungs. It is also to be noted that there were no cases of erysipelas and scabies, and one case only of undulant fever during the year.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

108. The number of letters, postcards, and printed matter dealt with was 7,532,209, as compared with 9,268,331 in the

previous year. Registered letters numbered 215,200, as against 182,689; 71,523 parcels were received and despatched, while the number in the previous year was 74,955.

109. The total number of Money Orders issued and paid was 14,234, of the value of £131,730, as against 18,402 and £183,082 respectively in 1919-20. In addition, Postal Orders to the value of £25,894 were issued and paid as compared with £42,754 in the previous twelve months.

110. The telephone service is conducted by Naval, Military, and Civil exchanges, separately controlled and administered. The Civil exchange has 480 subscribers and 750 miles of aerial telephone wire.

CLIMATE.

111. The highest temperature in the shade was 96·5 on the 24th July, and the lowest 40·0 on 27th January. The mean temperature for the year was 66·0, as compared with 66·6 in the corresponding period last year.

112. The mean temperature for the summer months of June, July, August and September was 77·7; in the same months of 1919 it was 76·2. The mean temperature for the winter months of January, February and March was 54·80, or 0·8 degrees higher than that of the corresponding months of the preceding year.

113. The total rainfall was 23·09 inches, or 7·79 inches more than that of 1920-21.

RAILWAY.

114. The gross revenue of the Railway during 1920-21 was £12,276, as against £15,038 in 1919-20. The expenditure was £20,833, in addition to which £308 was expended on the Railway Technical School, where the average number of apprentices under training was 28. Apprentices are employed in the Technical School on general engineering, repairing, and refitting work of the rolling stock. During the War many young men who were trained in the Malta Railway Works found lucrative employment abroad, or in His Majesty's Dockyard, or on board His Majesty's Ships. Several secured the Chief and Second Engineers' Certificates in Marine Engineering issued by the Board of Trade.

LEGISLATION.

115. Eighteen Ordinances were promulgated during the year 1920-21, the more important being:—

(i) *The Exportation and Importation Restriction Ordinance* (Ordinance No. VIII. of 1920), which amends Article 37 of Ordinance No. VI. of 1840, concerning the levying and collection of Customs duties, and confers upon the Governor in Council the right of prohibiting, restricting or otherwise

regulating exports from and imports into these islands, conditionally or unconditionally, for a period of three years following the termination of the War.

(ii) *The Encouragement of New Industries Ordinance, 1920* (Ordinance No. IX. of 1920) legalizes the grant of temporary monopolies in the case of certain new industries; defines new industries as those relating to any process or enterprise of production, manufacture, improvement or importation of any article, commodity or service initiated in these islands for the first time; and confers upon the Governor the power to grant to British subjects or firms the exclusive right for a period not exceeding seven years to establish and carry on a new industry.

(iii) *The Census Ordinance, 1920* (Ordinance No. X. of 1920) providing for the taking of the Census of the population of these islands during 1921.

(iv) *The Jewellers' Ordinance, 1920* (Ordinance No. XII. of 1920) provides for the protection of the local jewellery industry against unfair foreign competition, and for the protection of purchasers of genuine gold and silver articles locally manufactured. Five standards of gold, ranging from 22 to 9 carats, and four standards of silver, from 959 to 800 millims, are prescribed.

(v) *The Imports Duties Revision Ordinance, 1920* (Ordinance No. XIV. of 1920) increases the specific and *ad valorem* duties, and establishes the principle of assessing duties on goods imported on their invoice value when expressed in foreign coinage, at the *current* and not the *fixed* rate of exchange for sterling money.

(vi) *The Opium (Amendment) Ordinance, 1921* (Ordinance No. 1 of 1921) amends the Opium Ordinance, 1913, which controls the importation of opium, morphine, cocaine and kindred drugs by amplifying the definition of the expression "similar drugs" in the original Ordinance so as to include any such drug of whatever kind, which, if improperly used, is likely to be productive of the ill effects of morphine or cocaine.

WATERWORKS.

116. 699,629,000 gallons of water were supplied in 1920-21, as against 765,193,000 in the previous year. The revenue derived from water supplied, introduction of house services, and rent of meters was £23,930, as compared with £26,037 in 1919-20.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

117. The revenue derived from the electric lighting installation was £50,364, as compared with £34,925 in 1919-20. The capital on 31st March, 1921, was £56,226, and the profit on the year's working, after deducting interest and depreciation, was £2,885, or 5 per cent.

118. The total number of units generated (exclusive of Central Station units) was 1,868,489, as compared with 1,794,559 units generated in 1919-20.

ANTIQUITIES.

119. No remarkable archæological discoveries were made during the year, but important sites were investigated with encouraging results. The ground round the "Roman Villa" at Rabat was explored and a series of rooms, passages, and water conduits was discovered. No important mosaic floors were met with, but fragments of rock and débris of interesting Roman pottery were collected. The excavations demonstrate the previous existence of a spring of water which flowed from a fissure in the rock close to the Villa, and that this water was conducted in elaborate channels and galleries to feed cisterns and fountains, and probably was also utilized for the baths of the Villa.

120. The excavations also made it evident that the "Roman Villa" was already a ruin in the tenth century, as a number of Saracenic graves were found built over and in the foundation-layers of the walls. Skulls and bones, in excellent preservation, were removed from these graves and taken to the School of Anatomy for anthropological examination.

I have, &c.

PLUMER, F.M.,
Governor.

The Right Honourable

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, M.P.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

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86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
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93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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No. 1112.

UGANDA.

REPORT FOR 1920

(APRIL TO DECEMBER).

(For Report for 1919-1920 see No. 1079.)



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No. 1112.

Annual Report

ON THE

Uganda Protectorate

FOR THE PERIOD

1st April to 31st December 1920.*

PREFACE.

1. *Geographical Description.*—The territories comprising the Uganda Protectorate lie between Belgian Congo, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Kenya, and the country known until recently as German East Africa (now Tanganyika Territory). The Protectorate extends from one degree of south latitude to the northern limits of the navigable waters of the Victoria Nile at Nimue. It is flanked on the east by the natural boundaries of Lake Rudolf, the river Turkwel, Mount Elgon (14,200 ft.), and the Sio river, running into the north-eastern waters of Lake Victoria, whilst the outstanding features on the western side are the Nile Watershed, Lake Albert, the river Semliki, the Ruwenzori Range (16,794 ft.), and Lake Edward.

2. *Historical Survey.*—The first British explorers to visit the country were Speke and Burton during their search for the Nile in 1862. Samuel Baker discovered Lake Albert shortly afterwards. Stanley reached Buganda in 1875, and was greatly struck with the intelligence of the natives. As the result of his appeal the first band of missionaries arrived in June 1877, followed two years later by a party of French Catholics. Both denominations quickly gained adherents, but on the accession of King Mwanga a systematic persecution of the Christians was inaugurated with the murder of Bishop Hannington in 1885. Mwanga was deposed by joint action of the Christians and Mahomedans in 1888, and fled to Sesse Islands in Lake Victoria. Religious antagonism soon revived, and the Christians were compelled to leave the country. They returned in 1889, and after severely defeating the Mahomedans restored Mwanga to his Kingdom.

3. Negotiations between the British and German Governments during the following year definitely placed Uganda under British influence, and Captain Lugard (now The Right Hon. Sir Frederick Lugard, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.) proceeded inland on behalf of the Imperial British East Africa Company, and, despite opposition from the French missionaries, obtained Mwanga's signature on the 26th December 1890 to a treaty giving the British the right to intervene in the internal affairs of Buganda. This proved the signal for armed attacks from both Mahomedan and

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 873 [Cd. 7622–64]

Catholic factions, and resulted in fighting, in which the Sudanese levies, collected by Lugard to maintain his authority, with difficulty repulsed both their opponents' forces in detail. King Mwanga, who had sided with the French, escaped to German territory at Bukoba. He was persuaded ultimately to return, and an agreement was drawn up granting the Catholic and Mahomedan parties definite spheres of influence in Buganda. The position, however, proved unsatisfactory, and the British Government was forced by public opinion in England to assume direct control of affairs in 1894. Comparative quiet ensued for the next three years until Mwanga instigated a rebellion, which was defeated by the Sudanese force under the Acting Commissioner Colonel Ternan. Mwanga once more fled the country, his infant son, Daudi Chwa, the present ruler, being proclaimed King or "Kabaka" at Kampala under the guidance of three Regents. Discontent soon afterwards arose amongst a section of the Sudanese force; Mwanga returned to join the mutineers, aided by Kabarega, the rebel king of the Banyoro. Fortunately the Baganda remained loyal, and the outbreak was quelled after a year's fighting, during which several British officers lost their lives. Mwanga and Kabarega were captured and deported. Since the early part of 1899 the country has been peaceful and British administration has spread over the neighbouring tribes. Control was extended over Busoga and Bunyoro on the 3rd July 1896, whilst arrangements for the inclusion of the other peoples within the existing frontiers were effected by Sir H. H. Johnston between the years 1900 and 1902. Arrangements with the native governments of Buganda, Toro, and Ankole were negotiated by the same Commissioner for the purpose of regulating the native administration and defining their relations with the suzerain power. It was found advisable to suspend the Ankole Agreement in 1905, after the local murder of the British Sub-Commissioner, but the subsequent loyalty of the natives justified the restoration of their privileges in 1912. Apart from this incident, the population has acquiesced in European rule, and only unimportant disturbances have occurred in outlying districts. The opening of the Uganda Railway from Mombasa to Lake Victoria in the early years of this century, and the subsequent installation of a steamer service on the Lake, proved a valuable stimulus to development, and has been largely responsible for the country's rapid progress in the twenty-five years of British administration.

4. During the Great War Uganda contributed in no small measure to the success of the operations in German East Africa. In the early part of the War hostilities, in so far as Uganda was immediately concerned, were limited to outpost actions on the southern frontier, which was defended by the Police Service Battalion (native ranks officered by Europeans), together with native levies who were later organised as the Baganda Rifles. These forces were subsequently augmented by a company of the King's African Rifles and a battalion of Indian Infantry, the

13th Rajputs, while the necessary auxiliary services were organised locally. In the advance into German territory in 1916, and in the subsequent stages of the campaign, the native population of Uganda was largely drawn upon to maintain the personnel of the Carrier Corps and the King's African Rifles, while the great majority of the European non-official population and as many officials as could be spared from an inadequate civil establishment were enrolled in the local forces. 38,310 natives were recruited for the Uganda Transport Corps (Carrier Section), as well as 1,741 as stretcher-bearers, etc. ; 3,576 porters were supplied to the East African Carrier Corps ; 5,763 for service in German and Portuguese East Africa, and a special Congo Carrier Corps, for which 8,429 porters were raised, materially assisted General Tombeur and the Belgian forces in the capture of Tabora. In addition to the above, five battalions of the 4th King's African Rifles were raised and trained in the Protectorate. To provide for the full complement and make allowance for wastage over 10,000 men were required. Finally, in 1917, the African Native Medical Corps was recruited, with the co-operation of the Missions, from the ranks of the educated natives and attained a strength of 1,000 with European personnel.

5. The year 1919 was marked by a famine of unusual severity causing many deaths from starvation. The spread of rinderpest, an endemic disease amongst Uganda cattle, increased to an alarming extent during the same year but the stringent measures employed were successful in limiting the outbreak.

6. *Administrative Divisions.*—The Protectorate was divided originally into six Provinces, but on the revised delimitation of the eastern boundary in 1903, these were reduced to five—Buganda, Eastern, Western, Northern, and Rudolf—of which the last named is occupied at present by a military garrison, pending the introduction of civil government. Until a survey of the country has been completed, it is not possible to furnish accurate statistics. The Protectorate covers an area of approximately 110,300 square miles, including 16,169 square miles of water.

7. The population on the 31st December 1920 was estimated to be 3,071,608, viz., 1,269 Europeans, 5,604 Asiatics, and 3,064,735 native inhabitants.

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

8. This Report covers a period of nine months, from the 1st April to the 31st December 1920, as the financial year of the Protectorate has now been changed to correspond with the calendar year. No exact statistical comparison with the results obtained in the preceding twelve months can therefore be made. Further reports will deal with a complete calendar year.

9. The upward curve of general prosperity which was noted in the last report has not, unfortunately, been maintained. Uganda has suffered equally with other countries from the

world-wide economic depression, though the results of this depression were not acutely manifest until the end of the period under review. By the end of 1920 it was obvious that European producers in Uganda were hard hit by the combination of low prices on the home markets, high shipping freights and high rates on the Uganda Railway, while the rise in the sterling value of the Indian rupee to a maximum of 2s. 8½d. (which resulted in the introduction of the East African florin stabilised at 2s. sterling) greatly increased the sterling cost of production. The prosperity of the Protectorate, however, does not depend alone upon that of the European planter, and the native cultivator, on whose efforts the export trade chiefly depends, has not so far been prevented from producing by the serious decrease in the prices paid for his crops.

10. Although difficulties exist in regard to the provision of the necessary labour for an extended programme of public works, the general labour position improved during the period under review and private employers, with few exceptions, had little difficulty in procuring the labour required. It is realised, however, that this amelioration is largely due to the suspension of development on the majority of estates.

11. Opportunity was taken of the Governor's presence in England during the early part of the year to conclude arrangements for a loan of £1,000,000 from the Imperial Treasury. The payments will be spread over a period of four years and will be devoted to undertakings of permanent benefit to the Protectorate. The approved schedule of expenditure under the Development Loan includes provision for the following :—

Improvement of transport and communications (purchase of motor vans, lighters and ferries, road-rail track, etc.).

Development of cotton, plantation crops, forestry and natural resources.

Building and equipment of hospitals, laboratories, venereal disease clinics and dispensaries; swamp drainage and other measures for the eradication of malaria.

Campaign against epidemic diseases of live-stock.

The establishment of training schools and technical institutions in many branches, including agriculture.

Provision of buildings for an increased staff.

Reclamation of tsetse areas.

12. Following upon the publication of the report of the Uganda Development Commission, further committees were appointed to draw up a programme of railway and road planning and to consider the best means of developing the waterways of Lake Kioga so as to tap the rich agricultural districts bordering thereon. Both these Committees included unofficial members.

13. The establishment, by the Secretary of State, of an Inter-Colonial Railway Council on which Uganda will be represented should go far to ensure that the Protectorate's interests will be more closely considered in the administration of the Uganda Railway than has been the case in the past.

14. A definite step in the progress of the native population was marked by the adoption by the Lukiko (or Native Council) of Buganda, of the principle that differential taxation should be imposed upon the wealthier natives. In the Buganda Kingdom, chiefs and others own large areas of land in freehold and collect rents from their native tenants: hitherto they have only been liable to the same Poll Tax as the poorest peasant, but a law has now been passed voluntarily by the Lukiko which provides for a special tax of Fls. 10 (£1) on all landowners, as well as a tax of 10 per cent. of all rents collected by them. The greater part of the proceeds of this taxation will be handed back to the Native Government for the improvement of native administration, and the balance will be expended by Government in educational and medical work for the benefit of the Baganda.

15. Reclamation of the rich and beautiful Sesse Islands in Lake Victoria, depopulated and abandoned fifteen years ago owing to the ravages of Sleeping Sickness, has been commenced under the direction of the Medical Entomologist, and by the end of the year 300 families of Basesse had returned to their old homes, and a quarantine station for live-stock had been established with a view to re-stocking the islands, which are believed to be free from ticks.

16. For the first time for four years the number of births recorded in the Kingdom of Buganda and the adjacent Bantu districts, where fairly accurate statistics are kept, exceeded the number of deaths. The influenza epidemic of 1919 persisted into 1920, but apart from this, and an epidemic of plague in the latter half of the year, the Protectorate was less subject to severe epidemics than usual. Native returns showed 1,732 deaths from plague during the calendar year 1920, but little reliance can be placed on these returns as any rapidly fatal illness is usually included under the heading of plague. There was a satisfactory reduction in the mortality from Small Pox, viz., 578 deaths in 1920 as compared with 1,840 in 1919. Lymph is now manufactured locally at the Entebbe Laboratory, with the result that 172,761 vaccinations were carried out during 1920.

17. The number of deaths attributed to Sleeping Sickness continues to decrease. While, in 1905, 8,003 persons died of this disease, in 1920 the deaths had diminished to 69.

18. During the year 1920, there were 17 cases of Typhoid, with two deaths, and 56 cases of Blackwater, with seven deaths, as compared with 83 cases and 18 deaths during 1919. At the end of the year the venereal treatment centre at Mulago, near Kampala, was opened, and branch dispensaries at centres of native population, for the treatment of natives, were in course of erection.

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

General Position.

19. For the past six years the actual revenue collected has been in excess of the expenditure and no supplementary grant-in-aid has been required from the Imperial Treasury. The subjoined table gives the final results for the last five financial years :—

	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920. (9 months.)
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ..	315,458	326,366	351,835	495,549	777,084
Expenditure ..	289,308	285,389	323,692	465,118	592,780

(Exclusive of loan disbursements).

Exclusive of Loan Funds and the unspent balance of the Cotton Development Fund, the excess of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st December 1920, was £463,271, as against the anticipated excess of £278,927, leaving a net surplus for the period April 1st to December 31st 1920, of £184,344.

Public Debt.

20. The total amount of advances received from Imperial Funds is £432,184, of which £25,981 had been repaid on the 31st December 1920, including interest charges of £2,467. These loans have been spent on railway construction and the improvement of communications.

III. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Cotton.

21. The total value of domestic produce exported from the Protectorate amounted to £4,134,136, an increase of approximately 125 per cent. on the preceding twelve months. This large increase is to be attributed to the abnormally high price of cotton. The export of ginned cotton accounted for more than 90 per cent. of the entire outward trade; 170,338 cwt. to the value of £3,778,931 being exported during the nine months under review. The cotton season was favoured with suitable weather conditions. Owing to the financial depression which set in towards the end of the year and to the low prices obtaining on the home market, difficulty was experienced in disposing of the crop, and in order to lessen hardship a scheme of Government buying is to be introduced in those areas where private enterprise does not operate. Cotton-growing is confined almost entirely to natives, who cultivate numerous small plots which in the aggregate amount to a considerable acreage. The total acreage under cotton is estimated at 207,100 acres, an increase of over 25 per cent. on the estimate for the preceding year. The principal cotton area is in the Eastern Province, where it is estimated that 148,000 acres are under cultivation

22. The quality of the output was on the whole satisfactory, though cases have been brought to notice where ginners have marked low grade cotton as first quality. The appointment of a Ginning Inspector will, it is hoped, prevent the occurrence of similar cases in the future.

23. Several cotton ginneries were erected during the year, though certain important areas are not yet served by ginneries. As in the two preceding years no unginned cotton was exported.

24. The proceeds from the cotton duty of four cents per pound amounted to £56,929. The money was devoted to cotton seed selection work, including the erection of buildings for this purpose, and the improvement of roads in the cotton-growing districts. Seed distribution on an extensive scale is carried out by the Government, 1,212 tons of seed being distributed free of charge during 1920, and an increase in production of approximately 30 per cent. is anticipated.

Coffee.

25. Coffee is the principal crop on European plantations and ranks second amongst the domestic products of the Protectorate. 25,691 cwt., to the value of £90,362, representing slightly more than 2 per cent. of the outward trade, were exported during the period under review. Compared with the preceding twelve months this shows a decrease of more than half in the amount produced, but there is every reason to expect that, under normal conditions, production will increase. The variety from which the best coffee is obtained is "*Coffea Arabica*"; other varieties yielding coffee of an inferior quality are cultivated on native plantations and kept for local consumption. Efforts are being made to trace the origin of a defect in Uganda coffee known as "grassiness." This has become rather more prevalent than in past seasons and it is believed to be attributable to the presence of rather more rain than usual during the coffee curing season.

Rubber.

26. On many plantations Para rubber has become the main crop, and its position among the products of the Protectorate becomes increasingly important. It is generally interplanted with coffee and on some estates is gradually superseding the latter product. The output during the past nine months amounted to 314,549 lb., to the value of £23,767. The low market prices have adversely affected development, which has been suspended on many estates. On Government plantations a series of rubber-tapping experiments was concluded and a valuable tabulated record of results obtained. As in former years large quantities of seeds and plants were distributed.

Miscellaneous Products.

27. The results obtained from cacao-planting were disappointing, and, on account of the absence of progress in the cultivation of this crop, it has now been abandoned on most estates. A

series of experiments is to be carried out and it is hoped that a type of cacao may be evolved which will give an economic return. The exports amounted to 798 cwt., valued at £4,117.

28. Sugar cane grows well in all parts of the Protectorate and the acreage under this crop is rapidly extending. Various kinds of cane, including the best varieties, are being grown experimentally on Government plantations and as the industry progresses Uganda should be in a position to produce its own sugar and to export to surrounding territories. At present jaggree is manufactured for local consumption and further experiments are being undertaken in this direction.

29. Oil-seed crops, particularly ground-nuts and sim-sim, are used as rotation crops on cotton plantations and are a valuable source of local food supply. The export of sim-sim amounted to 28,511 cwt., at a value of £50,133.

30. The cultivation of flax has received the attention of the Empire Flax-growing Committee and some experiments have been undertaken. It is not expected, however, that the results will justify the inclusion of flax in the list of exportable products.

31. Wheat, maize, rice, and chillies are well established crops, and efforts are being made to extend their cultivation. Experiments are being undertaken at home on consignments of elephant grass and papyrus with a view to the manufacture of paper and power alcohol.

32. Demonstration in improved agricultural methods is essential to proper progress in the development of agriculture, and it is hoped that it will soon be possible to open a school of agriculture which will provide the necessary instruction.

Veterinary.

33. During the period under review the Veterinary Department, which since 1910 had formed one of the divisions of the Agricultural Department, was constituted as a separate department, and in September 1920 representatives of this department attended a conference at Nairobi of veterinary authorities from Uganda, Kenya, and Tanganyika, at which the question of concerted action with a view to the eradication of the diseases of bovine pleuro-pneumonia and rinderpest was discussed.

34. Early in the year a virulent outbreak of rinderpest occurred in Kigezi district, and though it had secured a firm hold before the work of inoculation could be carried out, it was at length successfully placed under control. Smaller outbreaks of this disease were reported in Ankole, Toro, and Mubendi districts and in the Eastern Province but the enforcement of quarantine for infected herds was effectual in limiting the extension of these outbreaks.

35. A serious outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia occurred in the Eastern Province, but prompt measures, including inoculation, were taken which prevented the spread of the disease to other parts of the Protectorate.

36. Donkeys have been brought from Karamoja for employment on transport work in the Eastern Province and it is hoped that in the future they will be more generally employed.

Forestry.

37. The work of the Forestry Department consists mainly in the up-keep of fuel reserves to meet the requirements of the Busoga railway, the Lake steamers, and the larger townships, and in maintaining a supply of timber for Government purposes. The period under review was marked by the shipment from Mombasa of the first consignment of Uganda timber and it is anticipated that with further facilities for exploitation and development, and as the quality of the more valuable Uganda timbers becomes more widely known, the forests of Uganda will provide an increasing revenue.

38. The timber supply is derived from the Minzira forest, near the Tanganyika boundary, the Nambigiruha forest, near Entebbe, and the Budongo forest in Bunyoro. The former forest is estimated to contain over five million cubic feet of mature *Podocarpus*, a valuable timber, and with the completion of a short light railway a regular supply of timber is now forthcoming. In the Budongo forest the collection of rubber is carried out in conjunction with the exploitation of timber, and 3,696 lb. of rubber were despatched to England during the nine months under review.

Land.

39. The total area of the Protectorate is approximately 110,300 square miles, 16,169 square miles of which are water. This total includes the Rudolf Province, 14,138 square miles, and the readjustment of the boundary of this Province with Kenya is under consideration, with a view to reducing the area under the administration of this Protectorate. Cultivated land is estimated at 1,931,077 acres; uncultivated land at 36,810,043 acres.

40. As the result of agreements concluded early in the history of the Protectorate, extensive areas of land, amounting to 9,620 square miles, have been granted or guaranteed as freehold to natives. The total area within which all native-owned land has been surveyed is about 6,864 square miles. This is entirely in the Buganda Province. The additional areas to be reserved for native occupation in agreement and non-agreement districts have not yet been determined.

41. The grant of freehold by the Crown is suspended for the present, but leases up to 99 years are granted in respect of areas not exceeding, ordinarily, 1,000 acres for each applicant. During each of the first three years a lessee must place one-tenth of his holding under cultivation. The usual rentals are now from 7*d.* to 1*s.* per acre per annum for the first 33 years of the lease. Rents are revisable at the 34th and 67th years. For the period under review the average annual rental was 5½*d.* per acre. Lease is by private treaty, i.e., there is no auction.

42. Natives owning freehold land were formerly permitted to transfer a portion of their allotments, not exceeding half of the holding in each case, to the Crown for alienation to non-natives, subject to the consent of the Native Council and the Governor. The practice was for the purchaser to pay to the native owner the full purchase price previously arranged between the buyer and seller, whereupon the land was transferred to the Governor and became Crown Land. In this manner 55,551 acres of native land were transferred from the 1st April 1911 to the 31st December 1920. The sale of native land to non-natives is now prohibited by direction of the Secretary of State. Native owners are still permitted to lease land to non-natives subject to the approval of the Governor.

43. The average price of native land transferred to non-natives during the nine months under review was 17s. 1d. per acre, as compared with 15s. 3d. per acre for the previous year. The average price of Crown Lands sold during the same periods was 10s. per acre and 7s. 8d. per acre. The total sum paid as rent for Crown Lands during the financial period ended the 31st December 1920 was £9,750.

44. The total area of arable land alienated to Europeans is 188 square miles, of which 109 square miles were granted as freehold and 79 as leasehold. This does not include land in townships nor the area granted to Missions. The latter (which is almost entirely freehold) amounts to approximately 119 square miles.

45. The following areas are believed to be available for alienation to Europeans, though definite information cannot be given until the question of the areas to be reserved for native occupation has been finally settled :—

In Buganda	.. .. .	1,645 sq. miles (surveyed, of which possibly 75 per cent. is suitable for agriculture or grazing).
In the Eastern Province	.. .. .	650 sq. miles (unsurveyed).
In the Northern Province	.. .. .	250 sq. miles (unsurveyed).
In the Western Province	.. .. .	200 sq. miles (unsurveyed).

The total area leased as forest land on the 31st December 1920 was 143 square miles, 634 acres.

46. In townships, leases for periods of either 49 or 99 years are granted. All leases of township plots carry with them an obligation to erect on the plot leased within a specified period, varying from one to three years, a building of a definite value. The standard size of a township plot for European trading purposes is 10,000 square feet. According to the importance of the township and the length of the lease the rental for a plot of standard size varies from £2 to £9; the building covenant from £200 to £600. For a residential plot the standard size is one acre and the rentals

about £13 per acre and building covenants £600 to £1,000. All land leased must be surveyed and fees paid by the lessee. The average cost of survey is about 2s. per acre for agricultural land. A fixed fee of £3 is charged for township plots.

Banks.

47. Banking facilities are afforded by the National Bank of India, Ltd. (branches at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja), and by the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd. (branches at Kampala and Jinja).

IV. LEGISLATION.

48. Few new measures of importance were brought into force during the period under review. The increase in the poll tax payable by natives in Buganda Province and in certain districts of the other provinces necessitated fresh legislation, but apart from this amendment only minor alterations were made in the existing ordinance. Legislation was enacted for the prevention of corruption, with special reference to corrupt transactions with agents. Other ordinances dealt with the careless lighting of grass fires so as to damage adjacent crops, and the question of roads of access to highways from estates having no convenient approach thereto.

V. EDUCATION.

49. There are no schools for European or Asiatic children in the Protectorate, and educational work among the natives is at present entirely in the hands of the missionary societies, which receive annual Government grants towards the expenses of the work. The missionary societies are five in number, distributed as follows:—The Church Missionary Society (throughout the Protectorate); the White Fathers (Roman Catholic), in Buganda, the Western Province and Bunyoro; the Mill Hill Mission (Roman Catholic), in Eastern Buganda and the Eastern Province; the Verona Mission (Roman Catholic), in the Nile Districts; and the African Inland Mission (American Protestant), in the West Nile District.

50. Government grants during the period under review amounted to £3,175, viz. :—

£1,900	to the Church Missionary Society ;
£950	„ White Fathers Mission ;
£300	„ Mill Hill Mission ;
£25	„ Verona Mission.

In addition to hundreds of elementary schools under native teachers, the missions maintain at various centres high schools and technical schools under European supervision. At the latter the subjects taught include carpentry, masonry, brick-making, boot-making, printing, tanning, agriculture, wheel-wrighting and smithying, sewing, lace-making, and cotton-spinning. Excellent furniture is made at some of these institutions from local timber.

The following figures of attendance have been supplied by the missions for the period under review :—

				<i>Attendance.</i>	
				Boys.	Girls.
<i>Church Missionary Society :—</i>					
Village and High Schools	..			15,903	10,301
Secondary Schools	..	..		475	120
<i>White Fathers Mission :—</i>					
Village and High Schools	..			12,021	8,251
Secondary and Industrial Schools				405	24
<i>Mill Hill Mission :—</i>					
Village and High Schools	..			15,049	4,925
Secondary Industrial Schools	..			167	47
<i>Verona Mission :—</i>					
Village Schools	..	..	..	11,374	450
Industrial Schools	..	..		119	—
				<hr/> 55,513	<hr/> 24,118

51. The Mengo Medical School was unfortunately closed throughout the year owing to the lack of European teaching staff, and another of the Church Missionary Society's establishments, the Central School for Boys at Hoima, had to be closed temporarily for the same reason. The buildings in connection with the Lady Coryndon Maternity Training School are making good progress.

52. It has, however, been decided that the praiseworthy efforts of the missionary societies to provide a more advanced form of education should be supplemented by Government action, and it is proposed to institute a central Government technical school at which natives will be taught carpentry, masonry, motor repairs, and the simpler forms of fitting and engine control, scientific agriculture, surveying, etc., and will be trained in medical, veterinary, and a higher standard of clerical work. The Baganda, as well as the more intelligent members of other tribes, are singularly adaptable to any form of technical training, and the provision of a number of skilled native workers in most fields of industry and research will not only provide an outlet for the natural ambitions and energies of the natives themselves, but will prove of great credit to the Protectorate in many ways. In course of time it will no longer be necessary to employ the more highly-paid Asiatic artisans, whose standard of efficiency is not, in many cases, superior to that of native artisans.

53. A site for the Central Training School has been selected at Kampala, a Technical School Board has been created, and, as a commencement, a school for native artisans is being erected. For educational work in general, including additional grants to the missions, the sum of £65,750 has been earmarked from the Development Loan.

VI. CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY.

54. The climate of the Protectorate as a whole, though pleasant, cannot be considered healthy for Europeans, but the recent notoriety due to the ravages of sleeping sickness can now be safely neglected. For a family man the country possesses distinct disadvantages: European children as a rule thrive in infancy, but considerable risk is attached to bringing them out when they are over two or three years old, as they are liable to attacks of malaria and the resultant anæmia. The health of adults depends mainly on their mode of life, and with care constitutional health should not be impaired, but if physical fitness is maintained the altitude and proximity to the Equator combine to produce nervous strain after prolonged residence. Outdoor manual labour is dangerous for Europeans, and on plantations a manager's or owner's duties are for the most part supervisory. With the exceptions noted below the temperature is moderate and varies but slightly throughout the year.

55. The mean maximum temperature for most districts averages 80° Fahrenheit and the mean minimum 60° Fahrenheit. On the Ruwenzori Range there is extreme cold with perpetual snow, and it is also cold on the higher slopes of Mount Elgon. In the Nile Valley, near Lake Albert, on the other hand, the mean maximum temperature is 90° Fahrenheit and the mean minimum 74° Fahrenheit. The favourite localities for European plantations are the Buganda Province (particularly the Mengo and Mubendi districts), the Toro District of the Western Province and the Bunyoro District of the Northern Province. There are a few estates in Busoga (Eastern Province), but this area is not so popular.

Statistics taken at Entebbe, the seat of Government, give the following results:—

Average rainfall for the last 21 years	58·56 in.
Average temperature for the last	{ Maximum 78·5° F. Minimum 62·8° F.
17 years	
Mean daily sunshine	5 h. 58 min.

The rainfall at Entebbe during the year 1920 amounted to 55·05 in. distributed over 125 days.

The rainfall was, on the whole, below normal, though a few stations recorded amounts above normal. Records taken at 49 stations throughout the Protectorate register the lowest rainfall, 35·53 in., at Mbarara in the Western Province and the highest rainfall, 71·83 in., at Kisubi in Buganda Province. The rains vary considerably within even a small area, and stations a few miles apart frequently record a considerable difference in rainfall during the year. This variability is well illustrated in the above figures; the stations Entebbe and Kisubi are situated six miles apart, the difference in rainfall amounting to 16·78 in.

56. Two main rainy seasons are anticipated annually. The first, the "long" rains, usually begin in March and may continue through June. The second, or "short" rains, in September and extend through October and occasionally November. Generally speaking, both seasons are experienced throughout the Protectorate. Much of the rain falls during the night or early morning and seldom continues throughout the day. Violent thunderstorms and heavy showers occur frequently in the day time, but these are only of local incidence.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS.

57. There are two short lines of railway in the Protectorate, both metre gauge. The first connects Kampala with its nearest port on Lake Victoria, Port Bell, seven miles distant. The other line, the Busoga Railway, links Lake Victoria and the navigable reaches of the Victoria Nile, where the river opens out into Lakes Kioga and Kwanja. This railway is 62 miles in length and runs from Jinja Pier, near the source of the Nile, to Namasagali, the headquarters of the Busoga Railway Marine. The fleet of the last named service consists of two stern-wheel vessels of 100 and 50 tons cargo capacity, respectively, with limited passenger accommodation, a launch of five tons cargo capacity and a number of lighters, punts, and dredgers, all the property of the Administration. Weekly communication is provided with Masindi Port and various other ports on the shores of Lake Kioga and Kwanja, where channels afford access through the beds of floating "sudd" which hamper navigation in these waters. Both railways and the Busoga Marine are managed by the Uganda Railway Administration. There is a small Government steamer service on Lake Albert with headquarters at Butiaba, affording regular communication with the north-eastern confines of the Belgian Congo at Mahagi and Kasenyi and with the Nile ports as far north as the Sudan frontier post at Nimule.

Motor Transport.

58. There are now sixteen vans under the control of the Government Transport Department, four new vans having arrived towards the end of the year. The department has been handicapped by the considerable delay occurring in the supply of spare parts from England, but the mileage run shows a substantial increase and, in spite of the higher cost of materials and wages, running expenses have decreased. During the nine months under review 4,742 tons of cargo were carried, as compared with 5,091 tons handled during the previous twelve months. Of this total amount 1,516 tons were carried by motor van, 1,444 tons by carts and 1,045 tons by porters, the balance, 737 tons being carried by contractors. The working costs have been reduced by seven cents per mile and the receipts are increased by 3 cents per mile.

59. Practically all the driving of motor vehicles, Government and privately-owned, is done by natives, and the large increase in the mileage run points to the high standard of proficiency attained. At present, however, lack of mechanical knowledge detracts somewhat from the economic value of the native driver. It is hoped that this deficiency will be remedied by introducing facilities for mechanical training under the proposed scheme for technical instruction.

60. Private firms have supplemented the Government service, more especially in the cotton-growing districts of the Eastern Province. There has been a steady influx of motor cars and cycles, and the extensive use of motor transport is certainly warranted by the excellence of the roads.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

61. With the exception of the outlying districts of the Northern Province and Lira, the headquarters of Lango District in the Eastern Province, all administrative centres are connected by telegraph, a telegraph office having been opened at Soroti, Teso District, during the year. The total mileage of telegraph pole route is 1,233 miles, consisting of 498 miles of iron and 735 miles of wood pole line. The total mileage of wire is 1,554 miles. There are 25 telegraph stations and 29 maintenance stations. Telephone exchanges for the use of the public are open at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja.

Roads.

62. During the period under review some 55 miles of new motor roads were constructed. With the exception of the Kampala-Fort Portal road the construction of new roads was confined to work undertaken in the Eastern and Buganda Provinces in connection with the development of the cotton industry. The supply of labour has increased, but is still inadequate, and the major part of this supply has necessarily been occupied in maintenance work. There are approximately 650 miles of excellent roads fit for motor traffic in all weathers, about 800 miles of road suitable for light motors and carts in the dry season, and probably another thousand miles of good native tracks.

Road Rail.

63. For the purpose of testing the Stronach-Dutton system of road rail transport, an experimental line some four miles in length was laid from Kampala station to Kawempe cotton ginneries, the line being laid alongside, and partly on, the main Kampala-Bombo road. The trials proved extremely satisfactory, and a regular service was maintained as long as cotton was available for transport. In view of these results it was decided to purchase 50 miles of track with the necessary rolling stock, and to construct in the first instance a line from Kampala to Bombo and Kalule, some 26 miles. The necessary survey is now in progress.

APPENDIX.

Official Publications relating to the Uganda Protectorate.

Annual Reports on the Protectorate. (Price varying from 1d. upwards.)
Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Annual Blue Books, 1918-19 and previous years. Obtainable from
the Government Printer, Entebbe. Price, Fls. 8·13, including postage.
The price of the 1920 Blue Book, including postage, is Fls. 7·95.

Handbook of Uganda. 2nd Edition. Published by the Crown Agents
for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1. Price, 7s. 6d.

"General Information as to the Uganda Protectorate." Emigration
Handbook, published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. Price, 6d.

Reports of the Agricultural, Forestry, Medical, Public Works, and Land
and Survey Departments are printed annually and distributed gratis
on application to the Chief Secretary, Entebbe.

"Correspondence relating to the Manufacture of Paper from Elephant
Grass" (1919). Pamphlet can be obtained free of cost from the Crown
Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1.

Report of the Uganda Development Commission, 1919. Obtainable
from the Government Printer, Entebbe. Price, Cts. 90, including
postage.

Departmental Leaflets :—"Crown Lands Regulations" and "Purchase
of Native Land by Non-natives" can be obtained free of cost from
the Land Office, Entebbe.

"Coffee Leaf Disease" (1914), "Cotton Cultivation" (1914), "Diseases
of Rubber in Uganda" (1919), can be obtained free of cost from the
Department of Agriculture, Kampala.

Copies of local publications, except the departmental leaflets, are sent
to the Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2,
and the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, London, S.W.7.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hong Kong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute.	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the Northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

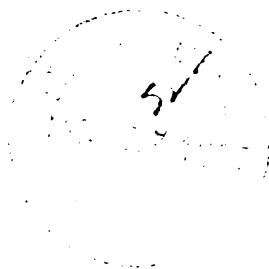
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1113.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1074.)



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No. 1113.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920-21.

The Leeward Islands form the most northerly group of the "Lesser Antilles" in the West Indies, and lie between $18^{\circ} 27'$ and $15^{\circ} 10'$. The Colony is now a federation, comprising the five "Presidencies"—formerly separate colonies—of Antigua, St. Christopher (usually called St. Kitts), with which Presidency is included Nevis, Dominica, Montserrat, and the Virgin Islands.

2. The governments of the first three Presidencies are each administered by an "Administrator," while the officers in charge of the two smaller Presidencies of Montserrat and the Virgin Islands have the title of "Commissioner." All the Presidencies form together one colony under a Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is resident at Antigua, the headquarters of the Colony. When the Governor is visiting other Presidencies the Colonial Secretary assumes, under a dormant commission, the office of Administrator of Antigua; and similarly when the Governor is away from the Colony the Colonial Secretary assumes the administration of the government of the whole Colony.

3. *Councils*.—There is an Executive and a Legislative Council for the colony, and also separate Executive and Legislative Councils for each of the four larger Presidencies, the Virgin Islands having only an Executive Council.

The Legislative Council of the Colony consists of eight official and eight elective members, three of the elective members being chosen by the unofficial members of the Antigua Legislative Council, three by those of St. Kitts, and two by those of Dominica.

I. FINANCIAL.

The aggregate revenue of the various Presidencies comprising the colony of the Leeward Islands during the financial year ended 31st March, 1921, was £304,136, showing an increase of £63,660 in comparison with the revenue for the year 1919-20.

The expenditure for the year 1920-21, exclusive of Imperial grants, was £274,706, as against £220,578 for the previous year, showing an increase of £54,128.

The excess of assets over liabilities of £82,870, on 31st March, 1921, was made up as follows :—

Antigua	£18,690
St. Kitts-Nevis	34,338
Montserrat	19,827
Dominica	1,545
Virgin Islands	8,470
	<hr/>
	£82,870
	<hr/>

The public debt of the Colony, secured on the general revenues of the Presidencies, amounts to £251,050.

The following table shows the amount of the loans raised and the amounts standing to the credit of the Sinking Funds on 31st March, 1921.

<i>Presidency.</i>	<i>Total amount of loans raised.</i>	<i>Amount to credit of Sinking Fund.</i>
Antigua	£115,700	£61,120
St. Kitts-Nevis	59,250	27,923
Dominica	65,000	34,152
Montserrat	11,100	5,680
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£251,050	£128,875
	<hr/>	<hr/>

II. IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND SHIPPING.

Imports.

The total value of the imports for the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1920 amounted to £1,560,083, as against £974,612 in 1919, being an increase of £585,471.

Exports.

The total value of exports for the year 1920 was £1,900,065, as against £1,172,775 in 1919, being an increase of £727,290.

Total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared :—

	1919.	1920.
Antigua	538,983	625,151
St. Kitts-Nevis	578,890	727,103
Dominica	503,509	569,142
Montserrat	302,629	318,240
Virgin Islands	13,059	14,839

III. LEGISLATION.

Seventeen Federal Acts and sixty-eight Presidential Ordinances were passed during the year.

In No. 8 of the Federal Acts power is taken to expel undesirable persons from the Colony, and No. 9 prohibits the publication and importation of seditious newspapers, books, and documents.

IV. EDUCATION.

(A) *Elementary.*

The number of Elementary Schools in the Colony in the year under review was 98, distributed as follows:—

<i>Presidency.</i>			<i>Government.</i>	<i>State-aided.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1. Antigua	}				
Barbuda		..	.. 18	1	19
2. St. Kitts		..	.. 16	2	18
Nevis		..	.. 10	—	10
Anguilla	}	..	.. 5	—	5
3. Dominica		..	.. 23	3	26
4. Montserrat		..	.. —	13	13
5. Virgin Islands		..	.. —	7	7
					—
Total		..	..	..	98

The numbers enrolled and in average attendance were:—

<i>Whole Colony.</i>	<i>1919-20.</i>	<i>1920-21.</i>
Number on roll	22,233	21,886
Average attendance	9,331	9,550

The total expenditure in the Primary Schools, exclusive of salaries of the departmental officers and of establishment charges, was £10,188 0s. 2½d., against £9,256 in the previous year.

(B) *Secondary.*

The following is a list of the Secondary Schools of the Colony, with their respective grants:—

<i>School.</i>	<i>Grants.</i>		
	£	s.	d.
1. Antigua Grammar School	535	0	0
2. Antigua Girls' High School	200	0	0
3. Dominica Grammar School	566	0	0
4. St. Kitts-Nevis Grammar School ..	650	0	0
5. Girls' High School, St. Kitts	93	15	0
6. Excelsior School, Nevis	50	0	0
7. Thomas Oliver Memorial School, Antigua	50	0	0
8. Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, Antigua	240	0	0

The Primary Schools in Antigua, Dominica, and St. Kitts-Nevis are all under direct Government control, and are managed by a Sub-Inspector of Schools in each Presidency.

In Montserrat and the Virgin Islands they are, with one exception, denominational, and are managed by the clergy of the various denominations. The Schools are examined annually by the Inspector of Schools, and grants are awarded on the result of this examination. The pupil teacher system is in vogue, the period of service being three years. Studentships are awarded to specially selected candidates at the end of their pupil teachership. Those for girls are held at the Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, Antigua, and those for boys at the Rawle Training Institute, Codrington College, Barbados, for two years to complete their training as assistant teachers.

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There is a Central Lunatic Asylum at Skerretts, Antigua, and two Leper Asylums in the Colony, one at Rat Island, Antigua, and the other at Fort Charles, St. Kitts.

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment are sent to the Common Prison of the Leeward Islands, in Antigua, and immediately before the expiration of their sentences are returned to the Presidencies from which they were committed. In 1920 17 prisoners were transferred to the Central Prison, seven being sent from St. Kitts-Nevis, five from Dominica, and five from Montserrat.

The daily average of the St. John's Training School in Antigua, to which boys are sent from all the Presidencies, and which was established under the provisions of the Leeward Islands' Act, No. 4 of 1891, for the reformation, education, and training of boys under 18 years of age, was 63.95. The expenditure was £1,635 and the receipts £488, the cost per head to Antigua being £38 4s. 11d. The health of the school was good. The boys were employed in agricultural and garden work in addition to the ordinary indoor work of the school.

Comparative table of criminal statistics for 1919 and 1920 :—

	1919.	1920.
Cases reported to the Police	8,367	5,112
Number of persons brought before the Magisterial Courts	17,624	15,644
Summary Convictions ..	9,301	8,043
Indictments in the Superior Courts	103	140
Convictions in the Superior Courts	64	94

VII. POLICE.

The actual strength of the Force on 31st December, 1920, was five officers and 131 non-commissioned officers and men, whereas the authorised establishment, as provided for in the Estimates, was six officers and 180 non-commissioned officers and men. The Force was, therefore, one officer and 49 men under strength on 31st December, 1920.

Nine men only were enlisted during the year. Recruiting has been most disappointing in view of the fact that the pay of the non-commissioned officers and men has been increased by 25 per cent. since 1st January, 1920.

VIII. VITAL STATISTICS.

The total population of the Colony, according to the Census of 1921, was 122,242, showing a decrease of 4,951 when compared with the Census of 1911.

In Antigua the estimated population on 31st December, 1920, was 31,210. The number of marriages registered in the Presidency in 1920 was 116, as against 100 in 1919, while the births were 1,089, being 34·56 per thousand. The legitimate births were 275 and the illegitimate births 814, the percentage being 25·25 and 74·75 respectively. The deaths during the year numbered 1,075, which gives a death-rate of 34·11 per thousand. The deaths of children under one year, exclusive of still-births, were 254, or 23·63 per cent. of the total.

In respect of the Presidency of St. Kitts-Nevis the number of inhabitants at the close of 1920 was estimated as follows:—

St. Kitts, 27,004; Nevis, 14,430; Anguilla, 5,098; the birth-rates being St. Kitts 37·97 per thousand, Nevis 40·92 and Anguilla 51·90, while the death-rate for St. Kitts was 46·02 per thousand, for Nevis 36·82, and for Anguilla 25·36. The illegitimate birth-rate for St. Kitts was 24·67 per thousand, for Nevis 20·22, and for Anguilla 23·25, as against the legitimate birth-rate of 6·95 and 12·09 and 20·24 for St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla respectively. The mortality of infants under one year of age is high, being 322, 173 and 43 in St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla respectively.

In Dominica the estimated population at the end of 1920 was 40,688. The births registered during the year numbered 1,683, as against 1,532 in 1919, giving a birth-rate of 41·12 per thousand. Illegitimate births exceeded the legitimate by 229 (956, as against 727), the percentage of the legitimate and illegitimate births being respectively 43·46 and 56·54. The total number of registered deaths was 1,124, as against 1,070 in 1919, while the death-rate was 27·62 per thousand. Of the deaths in 1920, 656 were of children under five years of age.

The report on the vital statistics for Montserrat in 1920 shows a population of 11,015 on 31st December, 1920, the births registered being 448, as against 387 in 1919, and showing a birth-rate of 41·14. The legitimate births were 163 and the illegitimate 285, the percentage being 36·4 and 63·6 respectively. The deaths registered were 256, as against 197 in 1919, and the death-rate was 23·24 per thousand, as against 17·5 per thousand in the previous year.

The deaths of children under one year of age were 60, or 23·43 per cent. of the total, as against 20·81 in 1919.

The general health of the Colony during the year was satisfactory, but no great advance in health and sanitary conditions will be made until the people as a whole are brought to realise the importance of cleanliness in elementary habits and of ventilation and a well-regulated diet, especially for infants.

IX. METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Antigua.

The average rainfall was taken at 70 stations. The average annual rainfall for 47 years is 44·67 in., and the rainfall for 1920 was 14·58 in. below the average.

The greatest rainfall in 24 hours was 2·15 in. on 23rd December; the lowest temperature for the year was registered on the 12th April.

St. Kitts.

The rainfall at La Guerite Station was 38·75 in. for the year 1920.

Dominica.

The mean rainfall at different stations was :—

14 Leeward Stations	..	..	..	84·86 in.
3 Windward Stations	..	..	..	105·16 „
5 Inland Stations	..	..	..	226·34 „
7 Lasoye Stations	..	..	..	92·11 „

X. POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

British and Foreign mails are conveyed by steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and the Quebec Steamship Company. The mails are conveyed between Tortola and St. Thomas, and between Tortola and Virgin Gorda by a launch belonging to the Government, and by private boats, as follows :—

From Tortola to St. Thomas about four times a week, and

From Tortola to Virgin Gorda about six times a month.

There is a fortnightly service by sailing boat between St. Kitts and Anguilla. A sloop is also subsidised by the Government of Montserrat to take mails and passengers between that Presidency, Antigua and St. Kitts.

Antigua, St. Kitts and Dominica are in telegraphic communication with each other, the other West Indian Colonies, Europe and America by the cables of the West Indian and Panama Telegraph Company.

There is no communication by telegraph with either Montserrat or the Virgin Islands. Messages can, however, be sent to the Virgin Islands by cable *via* St. Thomas. St. Kitts is in heliographic communication with Nevis.

XI. CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel T. R. St.-Johnston was sworn in as Acting Governor for a short period on 21st December, 1920, owing to the illness of Sir E. M. Mereweather.

His Honour A. K. Young was appointed Chief Justice and assumed duty on 19th March, 1921.

His Honour W. P. Michelin was appointed Senior Puisne Judge on 16th August, 1920, and

His Honour K. E. Poyser, D.S.O., was appointed 2nd Puisne Judge on 26th November, 1920.

The Honourable M. V. Camacho was appointed Attorney General on 1st December, 1920.

Mr. E. D'A. Tibbits was appointed Assistant Colonial Secretary on 1st October, 1920.

ANTIGUA.

The year under review was marked by severe and prolonged drought, and owing to the resulting falling off in the sugar cane crops the Presidency would have suffered proportionately in its financial condition were it not for the fact that abnormal prices still ruled in the sugar industry. The year opened with a Surplus Balance of £7,454 and closed with a Surplus Balance of £18,690, although a sum of £2,563 was placed to a special Reserve Fund and is not included in the final surplus.

The outstanding feature of general interest was the visit to the Colony of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm and loyalty.

The revenue for the year 1920-21 reached £106,829, exceeding the estimates by £16,700, as against £70,158 in the previous year, an increase of £36,671. The average revenue of the Presidency for the quinquennial period has been £74,242, as compared with £52,768 for the five years antecedent to 1915-16.

The revenue derived from Customs amounted to £76,721, as against £43,801 in the previous year, the increase being attributable to the increase in the value of the goods imported.

The expenditure of the year, estimated at £70,678, reached £93,093, or more than £22,264 in 1919-20, and £40,529, on the average expenditure for the quinquennial period antecedent to the War. This comparatively large increase is due to the high prices of food and other articles used for the Government institutions and works of public utility, and also to the rise in rates of exchange with the United States of America.

Value of the Principal Exports in 1919 and 1920 :—

	1919.	1920.
Vacuum Pan Sugar ..	£261,648	£521,311
Muscovado Sugar ..	39,176	24,154
Molasses and Syrup ..	13,738	22,567
Cotton	16,362	9,313
Onions	377	851
Hides and Skins ..	1,782	1,205
Preserved Fruits ..	2,292	3,007
Lime Juice	1,079*	—
Green Limes	246	42
Tamarinds	2,264*	—

* Included in heading " Preserved Fruits."

In Antigua the year 1920 was, from an agricultural point of view, a more satisfactory one than the preceding one, owing to high prices and a crop rather over the average. This was due to a high rainfall during the growing months in 1919. Unfortunately the first half of 1920 was exceedingly dry and the canes in the northern and central districts suffered heavily.

The average rainfall for the calendar year was 30·09 in., or 19·47 in. less than that of 1919. The labour supply was satisfactory though still limited.

In the annual report of the Antigua Sugar Factory for 1920 it is shown that the number of tons made was 10,638, as against 9,739 in 1919, and that the total proceeds from sugar and molasses were £401,218, as against £252,460 in 1919. The total expenditure was £296,099, a surplus of £105,129 being thus left for distribution. The average sales price of the sugar manufactured was £37 per ton and one ton of sugar was obtained from 8·81 tons of cane.

Bendals Sugar Factory manufactured 2,450 tons of sugar, equal to one ton of sugar from 9·48 tons of cane. The factory was supplied by nine estates. During the year arrangements were made for the factory to be taken over by a new syndicate, but this deal has since fallen through.

The area planted in cotton during the year 1920–21 shows a slight increase in acreage over that of the previous year, being 800 in Antigua and 90 acres in Barbuda—or 890 acres throughout the Presidency. About nine-tenths of the area planted in cotton in Barbuda was under Government supervision. Owing to unfavourable weather the yield was very low, with a fair percentage of stained cotton—the total amounts being 35,142 lb. clean lint and 2,500 lb. stains.

Early in 1919 an Ordinance was passed empowering the Government to destroy trees and plants acting as hosts for cotton stainers. This work was carried on at intervals during the year, and in consequence stainers were not so much in evidence as in the past.

Owing to the late arrival of the annual supply of onion seed, and unfavourable weather, the season was a comparatively poor one. The number of crates shipped being 1,071 as compared with 577 in 1919 and 1,309 in 1918. These results fall far short of the returns for 1916, when 6,940 crates were shipped. The onions are shipped principally through the Antigua Onion Growers' Association—thus uniformity and proper packing are ensured. The planters obtained a total return of 2½d. for their onions—the highest price received since the formation of the Association in 1913.

The quantity of corn (maize) grown in Antigua during the year was, owing to unfavourable dry weather, somewhat scanty and only sufficient for local demands. Most of the maize grown on estates is planted on the banks of cane-fields as a catch crop. The cob is utilized, mixed with molasses, beans, or peas, as a nutritive feed for horses and cattle. Owing to plentiful supplies of corn and cornmeal—chiefly from the United States of America—there was no need for the Government Granary to operate. It should be pointed out that the Antigua corn fetches a high price locally, and if converted into cornmeal could not compete against the low-priced degerminated American corn.

ST. KITTS.

The Revenue for 1920–21 was £106,750, giving an increase over that for the previous year of £26,743 and an excess over the estimated revenue of £35,472. The high figure reached was due to the high prices obtained for sugar and cotton with their effect on revenue through the sliding scale Export Duty, to the resultant general prosperity.

The Expenditure amounted to £91,476, being an increase over that for 1919–20 of £17,975 and an excess over estimated expenditure of £24,269. This excess was caused principally by increase

in salaries of and grant of bonus to public officers, by increased cost of institutions due to increase in cost of materials and labour, by inauguration of new Government activities, particularly in the direction of Maternity work and public health, and by the undertaking of Extraordinary public works and restorations.

The Surplus Funds rose from £17,813 on 31st March, 1920, to £34,338 on 31st March, 1921. In the latter figure is included a Reserve Fund of £2,000 and an Investment Depreciation Fund of £1,250.

The Public Debt fell during the financial year from £35,002 to £31,327.

The value of Imports rose during the calendar year 1920 from £364,090 to £564,117 and of exports from £425,450 to £768,364.

Agricultural conditions were satisfactory as far as the sugar crop reaped in 1920 was concerned ; but the rainfall was the lowest on record for the past 20 years and about 30 per cent. to 40 per cent. below the average, materially affecting the crop for 1921.

The total export of sugar, equating syrup to Muscovado, was 12,483 tons in 1920, an increase of 1,468 tons on that for the previous year, but considerably below the average.

The St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory produced 10,037 tons of crystals.

High prices were again obtained for crystals and syrup and record prices for Muscovado sugar. The export value of the sugar crop, including syrup and molasses, was £506,947.

The area planted in Sea Island Cotton was about 5,000 acres, as in previous years. The yield in St. Kitts was not up to the average owing to bad weather conditions in the early part of the year. In Nevis, where the cotton was planted later an almost record yield was obtained.

The total export of cotton for the year 1920 was 663,319 lb., though much of the crop remained undisposed of at the close of the year owing to the slump in the Cotton Market.

Pink Boll worm, a serious cotton pest, was discovered in St. Kitts late in the year. Owing to its late appearance little damage was done to early planted cotton, but a considerable portion of that planted later was destroyed for the purpose of controlling the pest. Regulations for the control were enacted and a Cotton Inspector appointed to carry them into effect. In order further to combat the pest the month of February was fixed as a close season for cotton.

Sixty-five acres were planted at the Government Cotton Farm. Owing to the unfavourable season and the advent of Pink Boll worm only 13,811 lb. of lint was obtained, an average of 212 lb. of lint per acre against 400 lb. in 1919. Five tons of seed, after hand selection and fumigation, were sold to growers for planting.

The cultivation of Coconuts in Nevis progressed and now covers 500 to 600 acres. The results were good and high prices were obtained.

The area planted in ground provisions was well kept up and the supply plentiful.

Labour conditions were very satisfactory. Wages were increased 50 per cent. all round on those for 1919.

The total consumption of rum, imported and locally distilled, amounted to 27,176 proof gallons, an increase of 930 gallons over the figure for 1919.

Serious epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough invaded St. Kitts and Nevis, 724 and 743 cases respectively being reported, accounting for a total of 142 deaths, or 9·7 per cent. of the total deaths for the year.

Toward the end of the year a Midwives Board was established for the control and regulation of midwifery, a further step towards reduction of infantile mortality.

DOMINICA.

The financial year 1920–21 started with a surplus of £894 and closed with a surplus of £1,545. The total Revenue for the year was £59,219, an increase of £8,246 in excess of the Estimate and of £3,122 in excess of the revenue for the year 1919–20.

The principal items under which increased Revenue was collected were: (1) Customs, which gave a total of £33,215 as against an estimated revenue of £27,700; (2) Fees of Court, which showed an increase of £1,481 on the estimate; and (3) Post Office, which showed an increase of £806 on the estimate.

The Import and Excise duty on Rum was increased by an additional duty of one shilling per gallon in April, 1920. The result of this increased duty was £3,558.

Import duties from other than alcoholic liquors showed an increase of £1,848 on the estimates, while the Revenue from export duties exceeded the amount estimated by £108.

The actual expenditure for the year was £58,567, or £9,613 in excess of the estimated amount, due principally—as in 1919–20—to enhanced cost of material and stores and drugs, permanent increase in salaries to public officers and to temporary bonuses, and also to increased expenditure in respect of the Federal Contribution.

The year 1920 opened with comparatively bright prospects. The slump in cocoa prices and the fall in the prices of all tropical produce, however, brought about a serious change in the financial

outlook, and entailed hardship to planters and labourers alike. In view of the chaotic conditions obtaining in world markets it is a source of legitimate satisfaction that Dominica was able to show a surplus of £1,545 on the year's finance.

The value of Imports rose during the calendar year 1920 from £203,360 to £286,168, but the value of Exports decreased from £256,789 in 1919 to £231,640 in 1920.

LIME INDUSTRY.

General Conditions.

Of the eight products obtained from the lime, there was, compared with the previous year, a falling off in production under no less than five of the more important heads, that is, concentrated lime juice, raw lime juice, citrate of lime, green limes, and distilled oil. Slight advances were recorded under the heads of ecuelled oil, lime juice cordial and pickled limes, but the business done in the two latter instances was so small that the increases were unimportant.

The crop shipped during 1920 calculated in barrels of a capacity of 4.55 cu. ft. amounted to 368,841 barrels of fruit. Compared with the output of the previous year, this shows a reduction of 33,000 barrels of limes.

During the three-year period 1915-17, the average annual output of limes was 390,000 barrels. For a similar period, 1918-20, the crop averaged 363,000 barrels.

The lime crop for the past five years calculated in barrels of fruit is recorded below :—

1916	..	..	..	..	..	384,000
1917	..	..	..	..	..	396,000
1918	..	..	..	..	..	318,000
1919	..	..	..	..	..	402,000
1920	..	..	..	..	..	369,000

The following table calculated on the usual basis* shows the disposal of the crop under the various heads :—

<i>Product.</i>	<i>Barrels of fruit.</i>	<i>Approximate percentage of total crop.</i>
Concentrated juice	231,060	62
Raw juice	36,411	10
Fresh limes	19,422	5
Citrate of lime	80,997	22

* Fifty gallons of concentrated juice represent 75 barrels of lime fruits ; seven and a half gallons of raw juice represent one barrel of lime fruits ; one ton of citrate of lime is equivalent to 266 barrels of lime fruits.

The weather conditions were on the whole favourable in all districts of the island throughout the year. On the other hand, market conditions for lime products were generally unsatisfactory.

The exports of lime products during 1920 are as follows :—

<i>Product.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
Concentrated lime juice	154,040 gallons	£74,938
Raw lime juice ..	273,082 „	27,877
Lime juice cordial ..	7,640 „	2,139
Green limes	19,422 barrels	25,410
Pickled limes	645 „	645
Citrate of lime ..	6,090 cwt.	20,300
Essential oil of limes..	58,151 lb.	14,926
Otto of limes	20,234 „	19,175
		<hr/>
		£185,410

Compared with the previous year, there was a total decrease in values amounting to £10,991.

A development of considerable interest in respect to the green lime trade was the opening of direct communication between Dominica and Mobile, Ala., by the Lake Line Steamers. Mobile is a port which serves a large and populous area of the Southern States.

These boats now call at Roseau during the spring months of the year for consignments of green limes. This, however, does not mean the opening up of a new market, as Mobile and some of the towns in South Texas were previously supplied with Dominica limes by way of New York, but that route was a costly one owing to the heavy railway charges. Direct communication by sea should lead to a reduction of costs and, it is hoped, an extension of business.

The green lime trade has fallen off by over 50 per cent. during the last three years. The average annual shipments of this fruit for the three year period 1915–17 was 40,000 barrels. For the triennial period 1918–20, the yearly shipments averaged 16,000 barrels only. This considerable reduction is due to the embargo of 1918 and to the effect of prohibition in the United States. It now remains to be seen if the original volume of trade can be regained and increased. The feeling is generally expressed that once the merits of the green lime are widely known, there are great possibilities for this fruit as an ingredient of teetotal or “soft” drinks. It is, of course, well known that, previous to prohibition, the lime was largely used in alcoholic drinks. So far, the favourable view of the green lime as a factor in “soft” drinks has not materialised, and on the whole it would appear that requirements under this head are more likely to be met by the raw juice trade rather than by the fruit trade.

Another enterprise, which may have a great effect on the lime industry, is the erection of a local factory by the well-known firm of L. Rose & Co., Ltd., for making citric acid crystals. Under existing conditions the finished product is made in England and America from the concentrated lime juice and citrate of lime shipped from Dominica and from other countries in which lime and lemon trees are grown. It does not require much effort to see that if the large quantities of concentrated juice and calcium citrate now shipped from the island could be used locally for making citric acid crystals, something like a revolution would be effected in the lime industry. The two products mentioned represented no less than 84 per cent. of the total lime trade during the years 1919 and 1920. Apart from the considerable saving in freightage, many other advantages would accrue to planters. But undertakings of this kind, especially when started in tropical countries under new conditions, are very often beset with difficulties in the early stages. Much may be required in the nature of research work and also in agricultural and business efforts before success is attained, and the production of citric acid crystals within the tropics becomes an accomplished fact and a commercial success. That any obstacles which may arise will be speedily surmounted must be the earnest wish of all who have the interests of the lime industry at heart.

CACAO.

The export of cacao was 5,284 cwt., of a value of £21,356, as against an export of 7,387 cwt. of a value of £37,293 during 1919. The cacao market was greatly depressed, and at the close of the year a good deal of the Dominica product in London remained unsold.

COCONUTS.

Under the influence of good prices the export of coconuts constitutes a record, no less than 706,979 nuts, of a value of £7,364 being shipped; the figures for the previous year being 492,426 nuts valued at £4,103. There is no industry of a more promising character for Dominica than the growing of coconuts, and it is a great pity that so little attention is paid to the undoubtedly great possibilities which lie in this direction.

Steps were taken during the year to have a complete survey and revaluation made of properties in Roseau with a view to effecting a more equitable incidence of the Land and House Tax and to produce additional revenue both to the Government and to the local Municipality.

Owing to emigration to Cuba and the United States of America, and to other causes, there was a considerable outcry regarding dearth of labour in 1920. A Committee was appointed to enquire into the matter and made various useful suggestions towards improving matters. Since their recommendations, however,

conditions have changed very considerably owing to the practical collapse of the sugar industry in Cuba, and it looks very much as if in the near future the problem will not be so much a shortage of labour as unemployment.

In conclusion, no report on the Presidency for the year 1920–21 would be complete without reference to the historic visit paid by the Prince of Wales, who arrived in the “*Renown*” on Sunday, 26th September, 1920. The Prince was presented with an Address of Welcome from the Town Board of Roseau; various officers and men returned from the front were presented to him, as well as Government Officials, Members of Councils and leading citizens. He drove through gaily decorated streets and was received everywhere with demonstrations of loyalty by the people. The only thing that excited regret was the shortness of the visit and the consequent impossibility of showing the Prince something of the features of this wonderful and beautiful Island.

MONTSERRAT.

The Revenue for the year was £19,622, an increase of £286 on that of 1919–20 (£19,336); the Expenditure was £21,743, an increase of £5,729 on that of 1919–20 (£16,014). Both Revenue and Expenditure were thus nominally the highest on record; this, however, is largely due to the real decrease in the value of the monetary unit.

The excess of Expenditure, £21,743, over Revenue, £19,622, was £2,121. This excess was chiefly due to the execution of various necessary public works which had been postponed on account of the local and general conditions caused by the War.

The surplus, or excess of assets over liabilities, at the end of 1920–21 (31st March, 1921) was £19,827, as against £21,948 at the end of the previous year.

The trade returns for the calendar year 1920 amounted to £319,535, the value of imports being £111,643 and of exports £207,892, as against £59,145 and £102,058 respectively in 1919.

The direction of trade was as follows:—

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
United Kingdom ..	£31,689	£182,545
British North America ..	34,025	4,742
Foreign Countries ..	15,856	343
Inter-Presidential ..	30,073	20,262
	<u>£111,643</u>	<u>£207,892</u>

The very marked increase in the value of exports is to be attributed to a good cotton crop and the high price of cotton. On this account the export to the United Kingdom in 1920 was nearly 80 per cent. greater than the total export of the previous year in value.

The shipment of cotton lint was 1,544 bales, giving a net weight of 554,975 lb., of an estimated total value of £168,700, an increase of 123,392 lb., as compared with 1919 (431,583) ; 351 tons of cotton seed, of the estimated value of £3,717, were also exported.

The cotton crop yield for the last four seasons has been :—

1917-18	..	..	..	..	409,855 lb.
1918-19	..	..	..	..	438,222 „
1919-20	..	..	..	..	538,334 „
1920-21	..	..	..	..	395,035 „

The other agricultural industries remained, in comparison, unimportant. The export of raw lime juice shows a decrease from 96,851 gallons of an estimated value of £1,887 in 1919 to 81,277 gallons of an estimated value of £8,684 in 1920 ; concentrated lime juice, citrate of lime and fresh limes were also exported to a total estimated value of £2,734, as compared with £1,887 in 1919. Only 116 tons, of the value of about £7,000, of muscavado sugar were exported. There is a small but growing bay oil industry, and the export of papaine was 821 lb., value £602, as compared with 1,970 lb., value £1,663, in 1919.

The total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared in 1920-21 was 318,240 tons, steamers 307,118 tons and sailing vessels 11,122 tons, the former being chiefly due to the fortnightly calls in either direction of the R.M.S.P. Company's vessels running between Canada and British Guiana. Direct passenger communication with the United Kingdom has practically ceased since the War. There is no direct communication with the United States of America.

The estimated population of the Presidency in 1921 was 12,120. The normal increase in the population is counterbalanced by the constant stream of emigration to the United States, Canada, Cuba, and St. Domingo.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

The Presidency of the Virgin Islands has reason to congratulate itself on the results achieved during the past financial year.

The year under review has been one of steady progress and advancement together with sound financial results. The revenue reached £11,715, to which must be added £2,500, being the cash value of the cotton crop actually in the hands of the Government

but not yet sold, as against an estimated revenue of £7,167. Expenditure, which was kept well in hand, reached £9,816, which, when taking into consideration increased salaries and the paying off of over £860 bonus due to peasants from the 1918 crop, shows a marked improvement.

It is an encouraging sign to note that the revenue under Customs shows £5,129, an increase of practically three times as much as any year in the previous ten years, excepting 1919-20, when the revenue was £2,543; of this amount £2,100 was for Import Duty on Alcohol due to Prohibition in the neighbouring Island of St. Thomas; the balance of increase is largely due to the detection and punishment of smuggling and to increased prosperity. It is to be regretted that practically the entire volume of trade, valued at £67,515, was with the United States of America and not with any part of the British Empire. This must continue to be the case until steamship facilities are opened up between the Presidency and Canada.

The Virgin Islands have now become a credit to the Federation, having an actual surplus of £8,073, and no debt.

Crime, as usual, has been conspicuous by its absence except in the case of one murder. Some 13 cases of smuggling were caught and dealt with, while some half-dozen cases were apprehended but dismissed after a severe warning. The ever constant petty land disputes continue to occupy the Magistrate's time, but this must of necessity continue until a Government land survey takes place, when undoubtedly large areas at present in the hands of the peasants will accrue to Government and become Crown Lands. This undesirable state of affairs is due to the fact that practically every title deed states "so many acres more or less." The owners have in nearly every instance taken the opportunity to encroach on land which is in reality Government land.

The health of the Presidency as shown by the Medical Report is on the whole satisfactory, and if venereal disease can be checked from spreading, few Presidencies can boast better health statistics. The Medical Officer has shown the greatest keenness in the present and future welfare of the inhabitants, never tiring in his energy.

Agriculture.—Marked progress has been made in bringing the land under cultivation, large tracts of virgin soil being brought into bearing either under cotton or cereals. This is due to the high market prices ruling in St. Thomas and to the abnormally high price paid for cotton in 1919. An increase of fully 40 per cent. has taken place in land development. It is to be feared that unless the Agricultural Department exert themselves to the utmost by propaganda work, this development will receive a severe check owing to the heavy fall in the market price of cotton. There is no doubt that cotton at 2½d. per lb. yields a good return to the peasant, but it is equally certain that the peasant, having

received 1s. 6d. and 2s. per lb. for his cotton for two years, considers 2½d. per lb. not worth bothering about. Bananas, onions, tania and sweet potatoes have proved themselves well adapted to the soil and climate as staple crops. A ready market for these products is at present to be found at St. Thomas. The planting of coconuts has greatly developed and has been keenly fostered by the Agricultural Department, but it behoves the Administration to look ahead and find a new market for these products before the present limited market becomes flooded, as it may in the very near future.

Considerable trouble was taken by the Government to exploit the salt at Salt Island, with the result that some 1,000 bags of salt were reaped.

Finance.—The financial position of the Presidency is satisfactory, there being a surplus of assets over liabilities of approximately £2,000 to be carried forward to last year's surplus of £6,183, together with the entire cotton crop valued at £2,500 (estimated at 1s. 9d. per lb.), which has been purchased and in the hands of the Government. The Presidency is in the further happy position of having no debt.

Considerable anxiety has been caused the Administration by the fact of the Presidency being dependent for its currency on the Danish National Bank at St. Thomas. Owing to the heavy depreciation of the pound sterling, compared to the American and Danish West Indian dollar, varying between 20 per cent. and 30 per cent., a considerable amount of gambling has taken place which depleted the Presidency of Danish money and flooded it with Colonial Notes, which could not be realised at St. Thomas. More than once a very awkward and anxious situation arose when the Treasury was faced with nothing but Colonial Notes and a mere handful of British silver to pay the peasants for cotton sold to Government. The peasants, relying almost entirely on the St. Thomas market and shops for purchasing goods, practically refused to accept British silver or Colonial notes. Careful diplomatic handling of the peasants has up to date avoided open unpleasantness, but the situation still remains grave. The local stores, importing all their supplies from the United States of America, refuse to accept Colonial notes and dislike accepting British silver.

A marked improvement is to be noted in Road Town, the main town of the Presidency. A market place has been laid out. A library consisting of some 200 or more up-to-date novels has been established, where also the telegrams and periodicals can be seen. A Peasants' Agricultural Bank has been established which has proved not only a success but a great blessing to the populace. A Recreation Ground of some five acres has been artistically laid out with shrubs and tropical plants. A cricket ground and race-course have added greatly to its attraction. The local Brass Band plays occasionally on Sundays in the band stand.

Street lamps, which were erected during the year, give a pleasing finish to a naturally beautiful harbour where every night some six or more sloops lie moored at anchor with riding lights burning.

Attention is being paid to the building of a small hospital, but owing to high prices, lack of labour and unforeseen difficulties this has had to be postponed until the forthcoming year, although the matter is well in hand, funds and valuable gifts having been received for the same.

Wrecks.—During the year two large schooners became stranded on the coral reef of Anegada. The cargo of the one containing salt fish was salvaged after considerable difficulties and realized £1,500. The other, containing tiles, became a total wreck. No lives were lost. The captain and crews of vessels when wrecked at Anegada are apt to fancy that they are back in mediæval days, as the inhabitants are still the nearest approach to the Buccaneer Pirates found in the good old days. Stripped to the waist, with a bowie knife in their girdle, they swim out and endeavour to make drastic terms with the captain before rendering assistance, and they play the game of bluff to perfection.

In conclusion, it may not be amiss to point out that the entire future development of the Presidency rests on transport facilities and sound administration. The Presidency has passed through its worst difficulties, but unless encouragement and transport facilities are forthcoming the British Virgin Islands will lapse back into even darker days than 1917–18. Given a helping hand, encouragement and transport facilities, her progress is assured.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hong Kong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
24	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seed, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1114.

NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1098.)



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NIGERIA.**ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.****1. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.**

The Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria is situated on the northern shores of the Gulf of Guinea. It is bounded on the west and north by French territory and on the east by the former German Colony of the Cameroons. A small portion of the Cameroons (31,150 square miles) has, for purposes of administration, been placed under the Nigerian Government. It is proposed that it shall be administered by Nigeria under a mandate which will be granted to Great Britain.

2. The area of Nigeria is approximately 335,700 square miles and it is thus larger than any British Dependency other than Tanganyika, India and the self-Governing Dominions. It is nearly three times the size of the United Kingdom. Along the entire coast-line runs a belt, from 10 to 60 miles in width, of dense mangrove forest and swamp, intersected by the branches of the Niger delta, and other rivers, which are connected one with another by innumerable creeks, the whole constituting a continuous inland waterway from beyond the western boundary of Nigeria almost to the Cameroons. Behind this belt lie dense tropical forests, rich in oil-palm trees and valuable mahoganies. Farther inland the forests become thinner and are succeeded by open ground covered with long grass and occasional clumps of trees. In the extreme north, where there is a very small rainfall and little vegetation, the desert is steadily encroaching. There are few mountains in the southern portion of Nigeria except along the eastern boundary, but north and east of the junction of the rivers Niger and Benue there is a large plateau from 2,000 to 6,000 feet in height. The country is well watered by rivers, especially in the south. Besides the Niger and Benue, which during the rainy season are navigable by steamers, as far as Jebba and Yola respectively, there are a number of important rivers of which the Cross River is the largest. Except for Lake Chad, on the extreme north-east frontier, there are no large lakes.

3. The population of Nigeria is approximately 16½ millions, which is larger than that of any British Dependency except India. There are about 3,000 Europeans temporarily resident in Nigeria, chiefly in the employ of the Government, and of mercantile and mining companies. The country is not suited for European settlement. Of the native inhabitants the greater number are of pure negro race, but in the north there are Berber and negroid

tribes. Of the former the Yorubas, Ibos and Benis are the most important, and of the latter the Fulani, the Kanuri and the Hausa-speaking tribes, generally called Hausas. The Yoruba occupy the south-west corner of Nigeria and from an early date possessed an organised government. The Benis are now a comparatively small tribe, but Benin was formerly a very powerful kingdom and its influence extended over a considerable area. The Ibos are a large unorganised tribe who occupy most of the land east of the lower Niger. The Kanuri occupy Bornu, in the north-east of Nigeria, a kingdom which has survived for many centuries in spite of great vicissitudes. It was known to the Portuguese as early as the 15th century. The Hausas occupy the greater portion of northern Nigeria and from an early date had attained to a fairly high level of civilisation. At the beginning of the 19th century the Hausa States were conquered by the Fulani, a nomad people who had settled in the towns and country of Hausaland and who, by their superior intelligence, had acquired great power and influence. The existing Hausa system of law and administration based on the Koran was retained, but Fulani dynasties were established in the various states.

4. The coast of Nigeria first became known to Europe towards the end of the 15th century as the result of the visits of Portuguese explorers. Shortly afterwards the demand for negro labour in the American and West Indian colonies created an immense trade in slaves, and for over three hundred years the west coast of Africa was visited in large numbers by the slave ships of all nations. At the beginning of the 19th century efforts were made to suppress the traffic, which was declared illegal, and a British naval squadron was stationed on the Coast to intercept the slave ships. In 1851 British support was given to an exiled King of Lagos, who, in return, pledged himself to abolish the slave trade in Lagos, which was at that time the chief slave market in West Africa. Finding himself powerless against the slave-dealing faction, his son ceded Lagos to the British in 1861 and the British Colony of Lagos came into being the following year.

5. By the exertions of Mungo Park (1796-1805), Captain Clapperton (1822-26), Richard Lander (1826-30), Doctor Barth (1850-55) and numerous other explorers, most of whom lost their lives in the country, the course of the Niger and the existence of the Fulani kingdoms in the interior had become known, and, after many failures, a successful trade was established along the banks of the Rivers Niger and Benue. In 1879 the various British firms trading on these rivers were amalgamated, and in 1887 a Charter was granted to the amalgamated companies, which became known as the Royal Niger Company, Chartered & Limited. By this Charter the Company became responsible for the government of the river basins and the whole of Hausaland and Bornu, but, in practice, their influence extended little beyond the banks of the rivers.

6. The Berlin Conference of 1885 had recognised the British claim to a protectorate over Nigeria, and the remainder of the country was made into a separate administration under Foreign Office control and became known as the Oil Rivers and later as the Niger Coast Protectorate.

7. Owing to the restrictions on trade caused by artificial boundaries and the virtual monopoly which the Niger Company exercised, to the inability of the Company's forces to restrain the slave-raiding propensities of the Fulani Chiefs, and to foreign aggression on the western frontiers, it became necessary for the British Government to assume a more direct control over the country. The Company's Charter was accordingly revoked on the 1st January, 1900, and the northern portion of their territories became the Northern Nigeria Protectorate, the southern portion being added to the Niger Coast Protectorate and renamed the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, both Protectorates being placed under Colonial Office control.

8. In 1898 an Imperial Force, recruited locally but with British officers, was raised by Sir Frederick Lugard, and was later taken over by the Colonial Government. This force was named the West African Frontier Force and the armed constabularies of the other West African Colonies and Protectorates were modelled on it. Soon after the establishment of the Northern Nigeria Protectorate, these troops were used to subdue the Muhammadan rulers of the Hausa states and Bornu who had persistently ignored the British requests for the cessation of slave-raiding and whose attitude was one of open hostility to an administration of whose power they had had no proof. As each in turn was conquered a new ruler was appointed who undertook to govern his country according to local law and tradition, but without slave-raiding and the extortion and inhuman cruelties which had marked the former régime. British Residents were stationed throughout the country and exercised a wholesome check on any tendency to relapse.

9. In the south there were fewer large states and the people on the whole were of a much lower standard of intelligence and development. On the lower reaches of the Benin river, a Jekri chief, named Nana, defied the Protectorate Government and dealt openly in slaves. He was attacked by a naval and military force and defeated in 1894 after severe fighting. In 1897 a peaceful mission to the King of Benin was massacred and another combined expedition was despatched: Benin was captured and was found to be full of the remains of human sacrifices, for which the City had long had an unpleasant reputation. In 1902 the Aro tribe was subdued.

10. While the remainder of the country, was being opened up the hinterland of Lagos was being added by cession to the territories originally ceded by the King of Lagos in 1861. In 1866 Lagos had

been included in the West African Settlements and in 1874 it was united with the Gold Coast Colony. It became the separate Colony and Protectorate of Lagos in 1886.

11. In 1906 Lagos and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated and in 1914 Northern Nigeria was included and the whole country became the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

12. On the outbreak of war in 1914 the Nigeria Regiment (of the West African Frontier Force) took part in the campaign which resulted in the conquest of the neighbouring German Colony of the Cameroons, and a strong contingent of the Regiment also fought in the East African campaign. The loyalty of the chiefs and people of Nigeria throughout the War was very marked, and even the entry of Turkey into the War did not affect the loyalty of the Muhammadan rulers. There was, however, a somewhat serious rising in Egba land in 1918 which was quickly subdued.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

13. The main political divisions of Nigeria are the Colony of Nigeria, and two groups of Provinces, known as the Northern and Southern Provinces, which together form the Protectorate. The whole country is under the control of a Governor and Commander-in-Chief, to whom the Lieutenant-Governors of the Northern and Southern Provinces and the Administrator of the Colony are responsible. The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting of a few of the senior officials. There is also a larger advisory and deliberative Nigerian Council composed of official and unofficial members, all of whom, with the exception of three representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and Mines, are nominated by the Governor. There is a Legislative Council, the powers of which are confined to the Colony, laws affecting the Protectorate being enacted by the Governor. The members of the Legislative Council are nominated by the Governor and there is an official majority. The reorganisation of this Council is now under consideration, and it is probable that, in its new form, it will include a certain number of elected members.

14. The Protectorate is divided into 23 provinces, each under the immediate control of a Resident. In the Northern Provinces and the western portions of the Southern Provinces, where there are chiefs of sufficient influence and ability, native administrations have been recognised and supported by Government, the details of administration being left almost entirely in the hands of the paramount chief and his officials. In other parts, however, where there is no strong native authority capable of governing, the rule of the political officers is a more direct one, but even in such districts a native judiciary with powers limited in proportion to its ability and integrity is made use of with results that are increasingly satisfactory.

15. In the Muhammadan States the year under review has been marked by appreciable progress towards administrative ideals. The increase in the Political Staff, so welcome after the lean years of the War, cannot be expected to have its full effect until the newly appointed officers have emerged from the stage of political infancy, a period which may be said to correspond to at least the first three years of a Political Officer's service. True political insight is not acquired in a day and sometimes not at all, but it is a truism that without it no officer is able to cope successfully with the delicate problems inseparable from the proper administration of Native States.

16. The Native Courts under the close supervision of the Political Staff continue to deal with the great mass of litigation with an ever increasing efficiency. Unshackled by cumbersome procedure and technicalities the Provincial Courts have acquired a reputation for getting at the truth in criminal cases.

17. In the Yoruba Provinces and that of Benin the principle of rule through Native Administrations has been strengthened and extended. It has been found that the system has led in the Yoruba countries to an increase in the interest taken by the Chiefs and the people as a whole in the advancement of their country. By the provision of adequate salaries for the principal Chiefs it has also done something towards checking extortion. The worst feature of the system is the unseemly scramble which occurs from time to time amongst all possible and many impossible aspirants to office whenever a vacancy occurs amongst the better-paid posts.

18. With a few exceptions, generally to be found amongst the head Chiefs of existing Native Administrations, the main political difficulty throughout the Southern Provinces lies in the weakness of the authority of the Native Chiefs. To the East of the Niger, and in other districts where there are no Native Administrations, the Native Courts are not only judicial bodies but serve also as a medium through which the executive orders of the Government are issued.

19. Most of the reports from the Provinces mention the increased efficiency in administration due to the fact that the Political Staff is now up to strength. The effect is particularly noticeable in connection with the Native Courts, where increased supervision has done much to remedy the complaints as to the ideas of justice obtaining amongst the native judges. Appeals are, however, still numerous, but often they are without foundation, and are made in the hope that the higher authority may take a different view of the facts. An increasing number of people spend their time in litigation and in carrying the most trivial complaints to the District Officer and Resident, and failing them to the Lieutenant-Governor and the Governor, with the assistance of the ubiquitous letter-writer.

20. In connection with the Pagan or non-Muslim communities of the Northern Provinces it is satisfactory to record a decided

change in their attitude towards the Administration. This can reasonably be ascribed to the proper appreciation by Political Officers of the supreme importance of something more than a superficial knowledge of the customs, language, organisation and affinities of the various peoples with whom they come in contact. It is the ideas at the back of their shibboleths such as Ju-ju, Fetish, human sacrifice and sassafras poisoning which are important, and a study of them, however revolting in origin they may be, will often provide the clue to the successful administration of a tribe. The paramount authority is often, in its essence, religious, and it is the aim of Political Officers to study this authority and deal with pagans only through the man or men whom they recognise as influential. By these methods the young men become accustomed to responsibility, their interest is extended in support of the Administration, and development of a civic sense is initiated. It has been the policy to discover the existing machinery of administration and to utilise it.

21. In Lagos the dispute between the rival factions of the Muhammadans has not yet reached a settlement, but attempts to effect a reconciliation have not been abandoned. A considerable amount of political capital was made out of the arrival of the White Cap Chief Oluwa on the conclusion of his successful appeal to the Privy Council. Towards the end of the year, however, it was becoming evident that less credence was being attached to the misleading promises made by those whose position and prestige are based on misrepresentations of the Government's motives in this and other questions.

22. The census was taken throughout Nigeria during the year, and with the exception of a few sporadic outbursts of discontent with a measure which was generally disliked there was very little trouble. The complete figures are not yet available.

23. The visit of the Emir of Katsina, one of the most progressive and enlightened Muhammadan Emirs, to England, *en route* to Mecca, can have nothing but a beneficial effect politically. Besides being accorded the honour of an audience with His Majesty the King, who personally bestowed on him the King's Medal for Native Chiefs, opportunity was found to give the Emir an insight into the social, public and commercial life of England. It is understood that what impressed the Emir more than anything was the contrast between the order and regularity of Western ways as compared with the more picturesque but less efficient methods of the East with which he became acquainted later.

24. The Sultan of Sokoto has been made an Honorary Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and nine other chiefs have received the King's Medal.

25. The proportion of crimes of violence which are detected is greater than it was. Cannibalism still occurs and is probably more common than is realised, and during the year at Awka a case

of human sacrifice was brought to the notice of the police. The culprits, who were caught almost *flagrante delicto*, were brought to justice, and the "juju" tree which was the scene of the murders connected with the fetish in question was destroyed. Most Residents note a considerable increase in stealing. Cases of slave dealing are still to be found amongst the tribes to the east of the Niger, and the status of slavery is yet recognised and bears a stigma. Every effort has been made to stamp out the traffic in slaves which breaks out sporadically between Nigeria and the Cameroons; statistics show that the steps taken are meeting with success, and the final settlement of the boundary between the British and French spheres of occupation will go very far to facilitate these efforts.

26. Native marriage customs are, it is generally agreed, being rapidly undermined. Chastity in marriage is little regarded. As a rule, if a woman bears a child, the man who has paid dowry for her cares little who the father may be, and he does not wish to divorce a woman who may still bear children. Women are often attracted away by younger men and to an increasing degree by the fine clothes and idle life which they can enjoy in the larger centres.

27. The supply of labour for public services is generally adequate so far as numbers go, but is inefficient and expensive. Labourers as a rule dislike going far from their homes or leaving them for more than a limited period. It is only fair to add, however, that the construction of the Eastern railway has been made possible only by the generous and regular supply of labour supplied by the chiefs of the Ogoja and Onitsha Provinces.

28. On the recommendation of the Director of Agriculture drawings of various water-lifting appliances have been obtained from Egypt, from which it is proposed to have full-sized models made in the industrial schools. Experiments will then be carried out in Bornu and if successful there these appliances will be generally used for irrigation purposes.

29. As a result of a report by the Imperial Institute on samples of salt and potash from Bornu Province experimental soap-making has been started in several Provinces as a prison industry with any oils obtainable locally. In the Muri Province the experiment has proved most successful, the best soap being made from a mixture of four parts ash water obtained from a common grass, two parts potash water, and two parts of oil made from palm kernels.

30. The general health of the Colony and Protectorate has, throughout the year, been good, with the exception of an outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis in the Sokoto and Kontagora Provinces. This outbreak, starting towards the end of 1920, reached its maximum about April and gradually died down as the rains set in. The extent of country affected was in area about

equal to that of Scotland, and the case mortality was high. The customary sporadic outbreaks of small-pox were reported from time to time but the disease did not attain epidemic proportions.

III. GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

31. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five years are as follows :—

		Revenue.	Expenditure.
		£	£
1916	.. ..	2,943,184	3,609,638
1917	.. ..	3,492,738	3,219,958
1918	.. ..	4,014,190	3,459,774
1919	.. ..	4,959,429	4,529,176
1920	.. ..	6,819,274	6,493,523

The revenue and expenditure for the period January to March, 1921, amounted respectively to £1,566,748 and £1,674,353. The Nigerian financial year will no longer be identical with the calendar year, and the next annual accounts will be issued in respect of the year April, 1921, to March, 1922. The latest available figures are for the seven months April to October, 1921. The revenue and expenditure for these months were £2,548,390 and £4,790,502 respectively, and it will be observed that if the revenue for the next five months is in proportion, the total for the financial year will be nearly two and a half million sterling less than the revenue for 1920. The expenditure for 1916 and following years includes large sums advanced to finance Loan Works pending the issue of a loan.

32. Separate accounts are kept by the Native Administrations, which receive a proportion, normally 50 per cent., of the sums collected by direct taxation. The total revenue of these Administrations in 1920 exceeded £700,000, and large sums were invested during 1921 in the Nigerian loan and otherwise.

33. There was an excess of assets over liabilities at the end of the year 1920 of £3,296,789, but the most of this surplus will have disappeared by the end of the current financial year. The Public Debt at the same date amounted to £10,245,593 and the Sinking Fund to £557,381. In October, 1921, the Public Debt was increased by £3,000,000, a 6 per cent. loan being issued at 97 for this amount. The stock (inscribed) is redeemable in 25 years, but the Government has the option of redeeming in or after 15 years.

34. In August the Customs Import Tariff was revised and the duties on spirits, tobacco, and a few other articles were raised. In the case of spirits the increase amounted to 10s. a gallon, the duty now being 25s. a gallon of 50° Tralles.

35. During the year, United Kingdom and British West Africa silver coin to the value of £1,763,700 was withdrawn from circulation and shipped to the United Kingdom. A large number of currency notes was also withdrawn from circulation.

IV. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

36. *Trade*.—The value of the trade of Nigeria during the year 1921 was as follows :—

Imports	£ 10,550,287
Exports	9,655,915
	<hr/>
	£20,206,202

The value of the transit trade (i.e., goods passing through the inland waters of Nigeria to and from Dahomey and the Cameroons) was £149,297.

37. As compared with 1920, the value of the import trade has decreased by £14,666,221. Commercial imports, excluding parcels by post, show a decrease of £10,428,398. Imports of Specie decreased by £3,924,430. These figures point to a severe depression, but the comparison is with an exceptionally good year, when abnormally high prices were obtained for goods subject to *ad valorem* duty. The bulk of the trade is with the United Kingdom, which in 1920 supplied 81 per cent. of the imports; in 1921 this was 80 per cent. Imports from the United States of America fell from 11 per cent. in 1920 to 7·66 per cent., due to the adverse rate of exchange. The imports from Germany increased from £39,296 to £134,573, or 1·27 per cent. of the commercial imports and consist chiefly of hardware, cutlery, beads, cement and copper manufactures.

38. Prices ruling for produce during 1921 were low, in consequence of which there was little inducement for the natives to gather the crops. Nevertheless, export duties yielded £606,000 and compare favourably with the previous year's revenue from this source. The revenue derived from imports fell to the comparatively small sum of £1,037,642, the decrease being due to the slump in goods subject to *ad valorem* duty.

39. *Agriculture*.—The quantity of cocoa exported during 1921 was very little less than that during 1920. This was partly due to the fact that the exports in the calendar year include parts of two buying seasons, but still it does not appear that the present season will compare very badly with the last. The quality of the cocoa brought in to the buying centres, which was very low in the previous season, improved distinctly in 1921. There has been a

considerable quantity of fully fermented cocoa offered for sale, and very large quantities which have been partially fermented. In fact, in the present season the inferior samples appear to have been damaged more through being bagged and transported while still far from dry than through lack of fermentation.

40. For several years the Agricultural Department has made great efforts to induce growers properly to ferment and thoroughly to dry their cocoa. Only a partial success has been attained, owing partly to the difficulty which the individual small producer has in carrying out the instructions, but more to the difficulty of obtaining for him an adequate premium for a superior sample. This year superior cocoa has fetched a premium of some 10 per cent. But there is no doubt that many growers have received nothing in return for the trouble of producing a superior sample. It appears that possibilities of improvements on individualistic lines have been fairly thoroughly exploited with little success hitherto. Further progress appears to depend on an improvement in the conditions under which the cocoa is purchased; or possibly by organised fermenting, drying, and sale, through small central fermentaries managed on co-operative, or partially co-operative, lines with official assistance. There might appear to be an opening for commercial enterprise in the same way; but no such attempt has ever been made.

41. The amount of cotton purchased and exported in the season of 1920-1921 constituted a record: the total amount was 29,000 bales (of 400 lb.), of which amount 5,500 bales consisted of the exotic American cotton. For the export season of 1922 there is every prospect of a record export of this exotic cotton from the Northern area; but the prospects for the Native cotton crop of the Southern Provinces are very poor. To some extent these facts are no doubt connected with transient conditions, the heavy exotic crop in Northern Nigeria being due to the high prices paid during the last season, and the poor crop in the Southern parts to adverse climatic conditions. But, none the less, these facts probably indicate the future course of events in regard to cotton production in Nigeria. The improved cotton of the Northern area is of very good quality, distinctly superior to the bulk of the American crop; and the price of a superior cotton like this is never likely to depreciate to such a relatively great extent as that of the low grade Native cotton of the Southern area. The low yield per acre is undoubtedly heavily against the progress of cotton in any part of Nigeria; but the American cotton has found a definite place in the agriculture of considerable areas of Northern Nigeria, and it is safe now to predict steady progress proportional to the increase of transport facilities, the spread of the activities of the Agricultural Department, and general progress of the country on modern economic lines. In Southern Nigeria, however, the trade has a distinctly less sure foundation. The climatic conditions ordinarily cannot be regarded as favourable to the production of a

high grade of cotton in Southern Nigeria, whilst the recurrence of such seasons as that of 1921 is very detrimental to the progress of this crop. Attempts to introduce an exotic cotton in the Southern Provinces have not yet met with any substantial success.

42. In the case of groundnuts, the quantities exported in 1920 and 1921 are approximately the same, but a considerable portion belonging to the 1920 crop was brought over to 1921. The fall in the price offered for groundnuts for export during 1921 no doubt affected the quantity brought in for sale, but a large proportion of the crop is used for consumption in the country, and it is quite incorrect to suppose that the producer relies entirely on the export market for the sale of this crop.

43. Excepting for the small production of Para rubber on the few estates owned by the European firms, rubber has ceased to be a staple product in this country. The bulk of the rubber previously exported from Nigeria was extracted from planted "Funtumia" trees, or from wild trees of this and similar species. The low prices of 1921 quite prohibited the production of rubber at a profit except by well-organized concerns tapping Para rubber trees.

44. The attempt by the Agricultural Department to introduce and foster the growth of Virginian tobacco suitable for export continues to meet with an encouraging success. In 1921 about 5,000 lb. of such tobacco grown and cured by small farmers were sold at very satisfactory prices at the sale organized by the Department; and after being graded and fermented by the Department were duly exported by the buyer. The prospects for the season 1921-22 are encouraging; but this industry must still be regarded as in the first experimental stage.

45. The minor products introduced or fostered by the Agricultural Department such as kolas, improved wheat and rice, fruits, trees, and English poultry have all continued to make steady progress.

46. *Land.*—Under an agreement executed between the Imperial Government and the Royal Niger Company at the date of the revocation of the Charter, the latter's successors were allowed to retain certain sites then occupied as trading stations. There are a few such sites in the Southern Provinces too. With the foregoing exceptions the whole of the land is native land, controlled and administered by the Government. Proprietary rights in land have never been recognised by native law and custom, and legislation enacted since the establishment of the Protectorate provides for the maintenance of that policy. Building and agricultural leases are granted by Government with conditions as to improvements, and revision of rent. In making such revision Government is debarred by statute from taking into consideration any improvements made upon a site by the lessee, and from

charging more, as rent, for any sites than the amount which is obtainable, as rent, for sites similarly situated and of equal areas. If the rent is raised on revision the lessee may appeal to the Provincial Court or to the Governor, who will appoint an arbitrator. If the occupier is dissatisfied he may surrender his lease, and the Governor may award such compensation for unexhausted improvements as in his discretion he may think fit.

47. In the Southern Provinces native lands are not under the control of the Governor in the same way as in the Northern Provinces, but land may not be leased to a non-native except with the consent of the Governor. Large tracts suitable for agriculture are available, but it is essential that anyone who desired to cultivate rubber or any other permanent crop should first visit Nigeria and ascertain the actual conditions.

V. INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

48. *Forestry*.—The selection system of exploiting the Forests is still in vogue; the control of the fellings being exercised by fixing a minimum girth limit. The mahogany timber industry has been quite brisk and shows no signs of dying out. Applications for timber licences have been as numerous as ever, and there is also a certain amount of keenness shown towards exploiting secondary woods. There has been no great increase in the area planted during the year. The Teak, Casuarina and Opepe Plantations have done well, and demands for poles of the two former species for house building purposes are still greater than the supply. The area of Forest Reserves in the Northern Provinces has been increased substantially, but, on the other hand, little progress can be reported under the same heading from the Southern Provinces. Samples of various species of the commoner grasses from Nigeria were forwarded to the Imperial Institute for report on their suitability for the manufacture of paper pulp. The reports in most cases were satisfactory and several samples of good strong paper made from these grasses have been received. Further investigation is proceeding.

49. *Mining*.—During the year there were 62 mining companies operating on tin and 36 individual workers; six companies and 21 individuals were also prospecting for or winning gold; the average number of persons employed in the mining industry was 181 Europeans and 14,918 Natives.

50. The output of tin ore from the mines was approximately 7,179 tons, the average price of metallic tin having been £171 16s. 3d. per ton; 7,181 tons of tin ore were exported from Nigeria the value of which is estimated to have been £914,789. In spite of tin averaging such a low price throughout the year the output was very little affected, as the above figures show. There was no wolfram won or exported. The output of gold was 179.5 oz.

During the year there have been some most interesting finds, in three separate localities ; these are as yet only in the stage of being prospected, but the finds and indications are distinctly encouraging and worthy of careful investigation.

51. Very considerable concessions were granted to the companies and individuals operating tin in view of the very low price of the metal : these include a reduction of rents to 50 per cent. where ground is being worked and to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. where ground is not being worked ; further, all labour obligations are waived and the periods during which titles have not been worked are not being reckoned in the term of the title. A new and more favourable scale of royalty has been adopted.

52. The output of coal from the Udi coalfields for the year 1921 was 212,846 tons, most of which was consumed by the Railway and other Government Departments. The main coal seam, which averages 4 ft. 2 in. in thickness, consists of an outcrop and is worked by adits from different points. Rail facilities have been provided for the quick loading of the coal. A scheme of electrification in connection with the Colliery has been sanctioned and is now being proceeded with. The coal is of a good quality, highly volatile, and free from ash or clinker. It burns very quickly and has a specific gravity of 1.28.

53. The work of the Geological Survey was continued on the tinfields in the Northern Provinces and along the western railway in the Southern Provinces, and the results of the surveys are incorporated in bulletins published during the year. Copies of these bulletins can be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies. The Director reports the discovery of rock phosphates at a point on the railway 30 miles from Lagos, and further investigation is proceeding.

54. *Fisheries.*—The rivers and creeks teem with fish and a large number of persons are employed in fishing, chiefly for local consumption. Small quantities of fish are crudely cured and traded with the towns distant from the river, where this form of food is highly prized. There is very little sea fishing. Before the War a steam trawler was working off Lagos and a large quantity of fish of excellent quality was obtained.

55. *Water Power* is little used in Nigeria. In the southern parts of Nigeria there is little fall in the rivers but on the Bauchi Plateau there is a considerable amount of power available.

56. *Manufactures.*—There are no manufactures in Nigeria on a commercial scale. Earthenware and brassware are made for local use and for sale as curios. Leather is worked, and a certain amount of cloth is woven from locally-grown cotton. The produce of the country is exported almost entirely in a raw state, such little preparation as is necessary being done by hand.

VI. BANKS.

57. Banking interests are represented in Nigeria by the Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., which was established in 1894 and now has 15 Branches and 7 Agencies, and by the Colonial Bank, which extended its operations to Nigeria in 1917 and now has 8 Branches. Both Banks undertake all kinds of Banking business. The Bank of British West Africa opened one new Branch at Enugu in 1921. The Colonial Bank is erecting extensive new offices in Lagos which are expected to be completed within the year 1922. Owing to a continued depression in trade there was a falling-off locally in the business of the Banks. Towards the end of the year, however, there were signs of improvement.

58. There is a Government Savings Bank worked by the Post Office Authorities, and Savings Bank business is also conducted by both the Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., and the Colonial Bank.

VII. LEGISLATION.

59. *Maintenance Orders*.—The Maintenance Orders Ordinance, 1921 (No. 8 of 1921) facilitates the enforcement in Nigeria of Maintenance Orders made in England or Ireland and *vice versa*.

VIII. EDUCATION.

60. A number of Primary Schools in Nigeria are conducted by Government and these have attained a very fair standard of efficiency. There are also very many other schools affording a similar education, on the lines laid down in the Government Education Code, which belong to the important Missionary Societies. These "Assisted" Schools are regularly inspected and examined by officials of the Education Department and receive annual grants-in-aid from the public funds, the amounts of which are determined by their average attendance, efficiency, etc. In addition, a very large number of elementary schools exists, which are in no way connected with Government or under official inspection, and there is a rapidly increasing number of these schools in the districts opened up by the construction of the Eastern Railway. The majority belong to the various missionary bodies, and others are of a private venture character. For the most part the education given in these schools is indifferent and in many instances valueless, being conducted by youths who possess no real qualifications or competency for such work.

61. There is an increasing demand for schools. Most of the existing schools, especially in Lagos and other large towns, are overcrowded and quite unable to cope with the demand for accommodation. On the other hand, parents in country districts take but little interest in the education of their children. Away from the larger centres, parents rather grudge sending to school

boys who otherwise might be unpaid workers on the farms, and do not encourage them to remain at school long enough to obtain more than a very superficial knowledge.

62. Progress has been made in recent years with regard to the education of girls, and there are several Girls' Schools under European principals in Lagos and in the Yoruba Country, also in the Calabar and the Onitsha districts. With one or two exceptions these schools are "Assisted" and under Government inspection, and have accommodation for boarders.

63. There are numerous Muhammadan schools in the Northern Provinces in which the entire time of the pupils is devoted to writing and learning portions of the Koran. At a few of such schools, however, reading and writing of Hausa, in Roman characters, and arithmetic, are also taught.

64. There are several Mission Schools on the assisted list, which provide secondary education, in which a distinct advance has been made during the last three years. King's College, Lagos, is the only Government establishment in which the work is entirely of a secondary character, and it has reached its limit of accommodation. It is intended, as soon as circumstances will permit, to erect buildings for extra class-rooms and accommodation for boarders. Plans have already been drawn up.

65. The great difficulty experienced in the work and progress of education is the insufficient supply of qualified or competent native teachers. A Training College for Muhammadan native teachers was opened during the year at Katsina and has attracted a promising number of candidates for admission.

66. Provision is also made for training teachers at the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, of the United Free Church of Scotland, the C.M.S. Training College, Oyo, the Wesleyan Training Institute, Ibadan, and the Government Schools at Bonny and Warri. These are all under the inspection and control of the Education Department. There are also two or three other training institutions belonging to the missionary societies which are not connected with Government. Evening continuation classes are held at King's College for Teachers in the Lagos Schools. Teachers' vacation classes in agriculture are held each year in July and December at Calabar and Onitsha; the courses of instruction, theoretical and practical, are given by officers of the Agricultural Department, and certificates are awarded to those who succeed in passing the examinations.

67. Instruction in manual or agricultural training is given in the majority of the Government and Assisted Schools. The Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, has a carpentry, printing, and tailoring department.

IX. CLIMATE.

68. The seasons in Nigeria depend rather on the rainfall than on temperature. They are as a rule well defined. The "dry season" with its attendant "Harmattan" commences in the north of the country in October, and ends in April. It is of shorter duration in the south, and at Lagos generally lasts from November to March with only intermittent "Harmattan." The "Harmattan" is a dry north-easterly wind which brings with it a thick haze composed of minute particles of dust. During the "Harmattan" the nights and early mornings are cold, but the days are very hot, and it is during this period that the maximum diurnal variations occur.

69. Generally speaking, the lowest mean temperature is in the months of July and August, and the lowest minimum recorded temperature at the beginning and end of the year. The highest mean and maximum temperatures are, as a rule, recorded in March and April. In most cases the difference in range between the maximum and minimum temperature is greater in proportion to the distance of a station from the coast.

70. At the end of the "dry season" numerous tornados herald the approach of the "rainy season." Before a tornado the air is oppressively close and heavy; the tornado itself, which is scarcely more than a heavy squall, lasts but a short time and is accompanied and followed by a thunderstorm and rain. The "rainy season" lasts until October, with a slight break in August, and is followed by another short tornado season. In the south the prevailing wind during this season is from the south-west, and with it comes the rain, which is remarkably heavy along the coast and decreases rapidly as it travels inland.

71. The average annual rainfall at Akassa, in the Niger Delta, is 160 in.; at Lokoja, situated at the confluence of the Niger and Benue it is 48 in.; and at Sokoto, in the north-west of Nigeria, it is only 24 in. The average rainfall at Lagos is 72 in. In the northern parts of Nigeria there is literally no rain whatever for the greater part of the dry season; for twelve years no rain has fallen at Sokoto during the four months November to February, and over 23 in. out of the average rainfall of 24 in. is recorded during the five months May to September. In the south the difference is not so marked, though the average fall at Forcados in the Niger Delta is 119 in. for the six months May to October out of an annual average of 151 in.

X. COMMUNICATIONS.

72. *Railways.*—The Western Division of the Nigerian Railway connects the Port of Lagos with the important towns of Abeokuta, Ibadan, Ilorin, Minna, Kaduna, Zaria, and Kano (705 miles), while the branch line to Bukuru (143 miles) serves the tin fields of

the Bauchi Plateau. An outlet at Baro on the Niger River is provided by the branch line from Minna (111 miles) and ships of 12 ft. draught can be safely navigated from Forcados and Burutu to the former port during the high river season between the months of July and October. During the remainder of the year the Niger River is navigable only by "stern wheelers" and barges. A service of motor lorries connects the towns of Ibadan, Oyo, Ogbomosho and Oshogbo and there are also similar services between Oshogbo and Ilesha as well as between Bukuru and Ropp.

73. The Eastern Division, terminating at Port Harcourt on the Bonny estuary, serves the important coal fields at Enugu (151 miles) as well as running through a very rich palm belt supporting an immense population. An extension, 417 miles in length, of this portion of the system is now being constructed, and when completed will join up with the western division at Kaduna, crossing the Benue River close to Abinsi.

74. All the lines are of 3 ft. 6 in. gauge except the Zaria-Bukuru branch line which is of a 2 ft. 6 in. gauge. A branch line 42 miles in length will be constructed from a point on the extension mentioned in the preceding paragraph to Bukuru—the terminus of the 2 ft. 6 in. gauge line from Zaria.

75. It is estimated that the gross earnings during 1921 amounted to £1,398,000, and the working expenditure to £1,154,000, making the estimated Net Receipt £244,000. The total number of passengers carried was about 1,105,000 and about 266,000 tons of goods and minerals were handled. There are now 127 stations open to the public, of which 110 are on the Western and 17 on the Eastern Division. The permanent staff of the Railway includes 444 Europeans. The African salaried staff numbers 1,956 and 11,768 artisans and labourers are employed.

76. *Harbours, Rivers and Creeks.*—The Entrance Works in Lagos Harbour consist of two main moles to the East and West of the Harbour Entrance, with a training bank for guidance of the currents. During the year the extension of the West mole by 121 ft. to its relative position in regard to the East mole, and the extension of the training bank by 411 ft., combined with the work of the Marine Department dredgers, has resulted in improving navigable conditions considerably. Over 101,000 tons of stone were employed during the year on the extension of the West mole and the training bank. Vessels drawing 20 ft. have been able to enter the harbour throughout the year. The bar itself has maintained a depth of 25 ft., the same as in 1920.

77. A spit which had formed in the entrance between the moles, known as the Eastern spit, which had caused some uneasiness in 1919 and 1920, has been scoured away to a large extent.

78. Within the harbour considerable shoaling has taken place in the channel to the Customs wharf, and constant dredging has been necessary to maintain the draughts of 18 ft. and 19 ft. 6 in.

allowed to vessels at the respective berths at this wharf. The mail steamers have, however, been able to go alongside throughout the year. The new channel across the Apapa shoals which leads to the site of the new wharf on the mainland, and also to the present Railway wharf on Iddo Island, has been maintained at a navigable depth of 19 ft. throughout the year.

79. During the year a new and powerful suction dredger, "The Lady Clifford," arrived at Lagos for work on the bar. Her hopper capacity is 1,800 tons, which she is capable of loading in forty minutes.

80. The survey of Bonny River bar was completed during the year, resulting in the establishment of a new channel carrying 2 ft. more water than the previous one used. This channel has since been buoyed and sailing directions issued for its use, and the Admiralty are issuing a new chart.

81. The launch routes between Lagos and the Benin River were closed to navigation during the year by extensive movements of sudd in that portion of the creeks known as the sudd region. Excessively heavy rains at the end of July and beginning of August caused a phenomenal rise in the rivers and creeks, with the result that enormous masses of sudd were carried down the Siluko River, completely closing it, and incidentally imprisoning two Government launches that were in the vicinity. Efforts to re-open navigation were immediately undertaken by the Marine Department and by September 15th traffic was resumed. By the end of November all the blocks had been dealt with and channels through the sudd had been cut sufficient for all requirements. This work is, however, of a recurrent nature as the sudd grows very rapidly, and it requires attention every year. Clearing work was also carried out in the low water season in the River Niger and the N'doni Creek and a large number of snags dangerous to navigation were removed.

82. *Shipping*.—Messrs. Elder Dempster & Co., Ltd., own the greater part of the shipping and maintain regular services between the United Kingdom and Nigeria for passengers, mails and cargo. The steamers of the Broomport Steamship Co., Ltd., Bull West African Line, Chargeurs Réunis Steamship Company, Holland West Africa Line, Société Navale de l'Ouest, and Swedish West Africa Line compete to a certain extent, and a number of vessels have been chartered by the principal firms. During the year 373 steamships and four sailing vessels entered the port of Lagos. The distance from Liverpool to Lagos is 4,200 miles and the time occupied on the voyage about 16 days. The arrival of the R.M.S. "Aba" in Lagos on December 2nd was noteworthy, it being the first occasion on which an internal combustion motor driven liner had visited the port.

83. *Roads*.—The Government has constructed a number of wide motor roads which can be used throughout the year by light

cars and in the dry season by heavy lorries, and the whole country is covered with a network of "bush paths" which are seldom wide enough for two persons to walk abreast.

84. *Post Office Telegraphs and Telephones.*—The general trade depression did not affect the Post Office services to the degree expected. Despite the shortage of European supervising staff, a great improvement was noticed in the telegraph services owing to the reconstruction work being steadily persevered with. A cable 48,000 yards long to connect Bonny and Port Harcourt was laid at a cost of £10,000. High speed automatic telegraphy was introduced between Lagos and Onitsha and a working speed of 200–250 words a minute obtained. The expansion of the telephone services was again delayed by lack of materials. The renewing and modernizing of the Lagos system was commenced.

85. *Public Works.*—Work was proceeded with on the first instalment (1,065 ft.) of the wharfage scheme for ocean steamers at Port Harcourt, and piling over a length of 300 ft. was completed. Work was commenced on the Lagos wharfage scheme for which a contract was let to Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth and Company. The contract provides for the construction of 1,800 ft. of wharfage for ocean steamers, and a contract has been let to the same firm for large railway workshops at Ebute Metta, the headquarters of the Western Division. A coal and petroleum wharf is also being constructed, and the Ebute Metta station is being remodelled to meet the changes involved by the construction of the Apapa wharf. A large power station is being erected at Iddo. The construction of a motor road between Zaria and Sokoto was continued, and the road from Lagos to Abeokuta was completed. Serious strikes among the Railway and Public Works artisans affected the construction work in hand, but these strikes have now come to an end.

A. C. BURNS,
Assistant Secretary.

Lagos,
30th January, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent Reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Wei-hai-wei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hong-kong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the Northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit of the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1115.

MAURITIUS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1062.)



PRINTED IN MAURITIUS.



LONDON:

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To be purchased through any Bookseller or direct from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
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ERRATA.

Page 2 line 4, for " maximum " read " minimum."

Page 7 Tobacco, line 5, after " imported " read " has."

Page 8, Sources of Imports last table, for " Principal Imports from United States " read " Principal Imports from United Kingdom."

Page 9, last paragraph, before " risen " read " has."

Page 11. Exports percentage figures for 1920 should read—

United Kingdom	77·7
India	7·6
France	4·7
Other Countries	10·0

Page 17. Posts and Telegraphs, line 13, after " Armistice for " read " commercial."

Steamships, line 3, after " and " read " Messageries."

MAURITIUS

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920

SITUATION AND AREA

Mauritius lies off the coast of Africa, in the South Indian Ocean, some 500 miles East of Madagascar, between latitude 19°50' and 20°31' South, and on longitude 57°48' East of Greenwich. Its extreme length is 39 miles, its breadth 28 miles ; and its area covers 720 square miles = 460,800 acres. The density of population is very high being estimated at 507 persons per square mile for the whole island.

The largest town is Port Louis, the chief port and administrative capital, which has a population of 50,300. The towns of the interior are all of recent growth. Curepipe, the residential capital which lies at an altitude of 1,800 feet, has 19,500 inhabitants.

The Dependencies comprise a large number of small islands the nearest of which is 230 miles, the most northerly being about 1,200 miles away, 6° South Latitude. Rodrigues, the largest, with an area of 42 square miles, and a population of 6,573, is 350 miles to the East of Mauritius, while lesser islands of importance comprise Agalega, the Carcados Carajos group, and Diego Garcia, the largest of the Chagos Archipelago.

HISTORY

Mauritius is said to have been first discovered by the Portuguese in the first years of the sixteenth century, on one of their voyages to India. Pedro Mascarenhas, the commander of the fleet, called the Island Cerné and conferred his own name on its neighbour to the West (now Réunion). This celebrated navigator is still honoured in the designation Mascarenes given to the three islands Réunion, Mauritius and the third (added to the group by its later Dutch discoverers as Diego Ruys islands) which is now Rodrigues.

There is no record of any settlement during the Portuguese occupation which lasted nearly a century, and the Island only served as a point of call for repair and supply. No trace of human habitation was found when on the 18th of September 1598 the Dutch Admiral Wybrand van Warwyck annexed the Island to Holland calling it Mauritius after Prince Maurice of Nassau the then Stadtholder.

The Dutch made various attempts at colonisation but were discouraged by the difficulties of the enterprise and finally abandoned the Island in 1710. In 1715 the French established themselves and annexed the Island under the name of Isle de France. In 1719 it was granted by charter to the French East India Company and the Colony continued under the rule of the Company till 1764 when it was again transferred to the French Crown. The Island was lost to the French after an occupation of nearly a hundred years and came under British rule, on the 10th December 1810. By the Treaty of Paris, 1814, the Isle of France was ceded to Great Britain in full sovereignty and the ancient name of Mauritius was restored.

CLIMATE

The climate is tropical but owing to the high elevation of the central plateau, a large part of the island enjoys a temperate and bracing climate. The average temperature of this highland region is about 80° Fah. (26.6° C) and the maximum about 50 Fah. (10° C). The low lying coastal region has naturally a higher average temperature ranging from 90° F. (32° C) to 70° F. (21° C).

Mauritius lies in the track of cyclones, the critical months being December to April. Of late years the Colony has been spared severe visitations.

The rainfall is irregular and varies according to locality. In the central portion of the Island an average yearly rainfall of 175 inches is recorded whereas regions where there is the lowest rainfall receive less than 40 inches. The rainfall of the coastal districts varies between 25 and 30 inches.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The prosperity which Mauritius experienced during the war has continued during 1920 and the prices realized for the main product of the Colony exceeded expectations. In order to appreciate what these prices have meant to the producers it must be borne in mind that while the average value of the sugar shipped for the five years before the war was about 40 millions of rupees, the value of the last sugar crop has exceeded 225 millions. During and since the war practically the whole of the exportable sugar has been purchased by the Imperial Government and the payments made to Mauritius by the Imperial Government since the beginning of the purchase have been no less a sum than £48,147,000 or in other words, roughly the equivalent of the value of the total exports for twenty years on pre-war standards.

War conditions have also brought about a phenomenal rise in land value. Prices as high as Rs 3,000 per acre have been paid for cane land and prices from Rs 2,000 upwards are common. A good deal of land has changed hands at these prices. Although it is too early yet to form a definite idea of what may be expected with regard to the produce of the present crop, there are signs that a limit has been set to buying land at war values.

Meanwhile, a special Fund has been created, amounting to nearly £950,000, from the proceeds of a special export duty on sugar levied on the crop of 1920-21 for the improvement of the sanitation of the colony and for development generally.

The enhanced cost of supplies and the upward tendency of prices of all commodities have continued and the increased cost of living has led to a general increase of wages. In the Public Service additions were made to salaries on varying percentages but generally on the basis of a 30 per cent. permanent increase.

VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH

At the Census of May 21, 1921, the Civilian population was returned as 376,108 (194,070 males and 182,838 females) giving an increase of 7,317 on the previous Census Enumeration in 1911.

The Military stationed in the Colony were returned as 206 and the foreign shipping in the Harbour of Port Louis as 859 making a total population of 377,173.

There were 2,126 marriages, as compared with 1,563 in 1919, an increase of 563.

The births in 1920 numbered 12791 (6,440 males and 6,351 females) being 470 less than in the previous year. The number corresponds to a rate of 35.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which is slightly below the rate of the previous year.

The deaths were 11,773 (6,188 males and 5,585 females) and correspond to a rate of 32.3 per 1,000 which is somewhat lower than the average rate of the last six years.

The death-rate among children under 12 months was 156.3 per 1,000 births, as against 188.9 in the previous year. The rate among children below the age of 5 years in proportion to the total number of deaths was 316.6 to 1,000, as compared with 205.7 to 1000 in the previous year. Crèches have been established for the children of the poor in Port Louis under Government and private control.

The most prevalent disease in the Colony is malaria. Anti-malaria and anti-mosquito measures were continued during the year.

A preliminary survey as to the extent of hookworm infection in the Island was made during the year under the auspices of the International Health Board (Rockefeller Foundation), and the disease was found very prevalent throughout the Island.

PUBLIC GENERAL HOSPITALS

The aggregate accommodation is 1,046 beds.

The total number of cases treated in Government hospitals was 22,872.

The daily average number of inmates was 62.5. There were 1,074 deaths.

The number of patients who attended the dispensaries during the year was 65,302 as against 78,546 in the previous year.

ASYLUMS

The total number of patients under treatment in the Lunatic Asylum on 31st December 1920 was 456; the daily average number resident was 442.20; 131 patients were admitted; 90 were discharged and 32 died. All types of insanity were represented.

At the Leper Asylum there were 43 patients on 31st December 1920 and 15 were admitted during the year. During the year, 12 were discharged, and 6 died.

POOR RELIEF

1,122 paupers, as compared with 1,496 in 1919, received institutional relief during the year. 2,505 paupers (303 males and 2,202 females) received outdoor relief, against 2,810 in 1919.

During the epidemic of Influenza it was necessary largely to increase the number of pensioners and to give special assistance or increase the amount of the pensions in many cases not only in Port Louis but elsewhere. With the rise in prices of necessaries which has seriously affected old age pensioners and widows dependant on their pensions for subsistence, it was found almost impossible to reduce the pensions again to their former level and the new pensions are likely to become permanent.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS

The total number of offences reported to the Police was 19,930 in connection with which 12,098 persons were apprehended by the Police or summoned before the magistrates. These figures compared with those of 1919 show :—

A slight increase in serious crime against the person.

A considerable decrease in offences against property, especially in praedial larceny.

A considerable increase in minor offences especially for drunkenness ; 1,098 persons were charged for this offence in 1920 against 686 in 1919—an increase of 56%.

PRISONS

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment was 2,971 of whom 2,830 were males and 141 females. In the previous year the number was 3,647 (3,459 males and 188 females).

The number of prisoners under detention on 31st December 1920 was 534 as against 741 on the same date of the previous year.

The number of offences against Prison discipline was 1,071, as compared with 980 in 1919. The general health of the prisoners was satisfactory.

The number of juvenile offenders was 132 as against 169 in the previous twelve months.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE

The Revenue of the Colony for the financial year ended 30th June 1920 amounted to Rs. 18,605,595 exceeding the revenue of the preceding financial year, which was the highest on record, by Rs. 4,792,526.

The Expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 19,422,903 being Rs. 817,308, in excess of the revenue. The expenditure included Rs. 2,545,000 advanced in previous years for Railway re-equipment.

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as given below :—

Year		Revenue	Expenditure
1915-16	...	Rs. 12,975,041	Rs. 11,490,946
1916-17	...	13,611,473	11,816,141
1917-18	...	12,607,384	12,015,394
1918-19	...	13,813,069	14,711,349
1919-20	...	18,605,595	19,422,903

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The balance sheet of the Colony on the 30th June 1920 showed a net surplus of assets over liabilities of Rs. 6,255,484.

This surplus after deducting Rs. 1,582,946 spent on irrigation works at La Ferme which will be charged to next year's expenditure and Rs. 106,150 spent on La Nicolière Irrigation Works which will be covered by a loan was reduced to Rs. 4,566,388.

PUBLIC DEBT

At the close of the financial year the public debt of the Colony stood at £ 1,243,690 as compared with £ 1,249,990 at 30th June 1919. Against this liability there was an accumulated sinking fund of £ 414,087 as compared with £ 431,633 at 30th June 1919.

CURRENCY AND BANKING

The currency of the Colony consists of

- (1) The following Mauritius bronze and silver coins which are legal tender up to Rs. 5 :—
 - (a) Bronze : 1 cent, 2 cents, 5 cents.
 - (b) Silver : 10 cents, 20 cents.
- (2) The silver Rupee of India with its silver sub-divisions.
- (3) The Mauritius Government notes of Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5 and R. 1.
- (4) Indian currency notes of Rs. 50, Rs. 10 and Rs 5.

The average value of currency notes in circulation during the year was Rs. 10,215,903 compared with Rs. 8,197,200 in 1918-19. The average amount of silver held amounted to Rs. 2,436,667 as compared with Rs. 3,097,000, in 1918-19. The investment and depreciation funds on 30th June 1920 amounted to Rs 4,854,251 and Rs. 598,226 respectively.

Government Savings Banks are established in nine districts with a head office in Port Louis. The total number of depositors at 30th June 1920 was 33,625 with deposits amounting to Rs. 4,171,644. The Savings Banks are largely made use of by the Indians, of whom at the 30th June there were 13,925 depositors with Rs. 1,753,469 to their credit.

Interest is paid at the rate of 3 per cent.

The private banks are the Mauritius Commercial Bank (paid-up capital Rs. 2,000,000), the Mercantile Bank of India (paid-up capital £ 562,500) and a branch of the National Bank of South Africa.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE

The total volume of trade for 1920 has been the highest on record, being estimated at Rs. 213,868,458, representing an increase Rs. 39,025,113 over the preceding year when the highest figures were recorded.

The comparative values of imports and exports for the last five years are as follows :—

Year	Imports		Exports	Total
1916	Rs. 53,615,754	- - -	Rs. 72,682,170	Rs. 126,297,924
1917	42,094,708	- - -	58,319,728	100,414,436
1918	42,921,250	- - -	58,652,480	98,573,730
1919	47,039,024	- - -	127,806,321	174,843,345
1920	86,371,153	- - -	127,497,305	213,868,458

IMPORTS.

There has been a considerable increase in the value of goods imported in 1920 as compared with 1919. In comparing the figures of the present with past years due consideration must be given to the changes in the relative value of the rupee which have actually taken place during the period under review. Whilst the published figures have been given previous to July, 1919, in the normal sterling equivalent of Rs. 15 to the £1, those for the three months July to October 1918 have been converted at Rs. 12 to the £1, and after that date and for the whole year 1920, at the rate of Rs. 10 to the £1.

The imports during 1920, despite the additional cost due to increased prices and freights, are valued at Rs. 86,371,153, an increase of over 39 million rupees over 1919.

Increases in the actual quantity of goods received occur under the following items: Rice shows an increase of 20,000 tons over 1919: the diminished import of the previous year accounts for much of this increase; metal manufactures, chiefly galvanized iron sheets, 1492 tons in 1920 as against 352 tons in 1919, manures and fertilizers, wines and spirits, motor cars, of which the numbers imported rose from 34 in 1919 to 292 in 1920.

Rice.—Rice is by far the largest importation representing about 25% of the total import trade. The following are the importations for the last three years:—

	Tons		Value
1918	59,723	Rs.	15,307,708
1919	43,826		10,499,803
1920	64,432		24,204,358

In 1920 45,000 tons came from Burmah, 12,000 tons from Saigon and 6,000 tons from Madagascar.

Manures and Fertilizers.—The second largest item in order of value is manures and chemicals for the preparation of manures. The total value under this heading was Rs. 7,345,198 in 1920 as compared with Rs. 4,537,469 in 1919.

Machinery.—Machinery occupies the third place in the value of commercial imports, showing increases of 4 million rupees over the figures for 1918 and 1919. Of these imports machinery imported for local industries and mechanical transport shows increases of Rs. 3,714,000 and Rs. 3,343,000 over the figures of the two preceding years.

Sewing machines and typewriters.—Importations in these lines deserve mention and the following will show the quantities imported during the past three years:

	Sewing Machines		Typewriters
1918	488		12
1919	343		26
1920	1503		72

Wheat-flour.—There was a considerable increase in the importation of this article of diet. The quantity imported in 1920 increased by 3,845 tons and the value by Rs. 1,694,772 over the previous year. On a total of about 10,640 tons, 5,200 came from Australia and 4,300 tons from India.

The imports during the last three years were :—

		Tons			Value
1918	- - -	2,385	- - -	Rs.	921,837
1919	- - -	6,800	- - -		2,582,160
1920	- - -	10,645	- - -		4,276,932

Cotton manufactures.—The total value of cotton manufactures imported last year rose to Rs. 3,780,000, an increase of Rs. 1,354,000 over 1918 and Rs. 1,475,000 over 1919.

The following table shows the quantity in metres of cotton piece goods imported during 1918, 1919 and 1920 :

		Grey and White			Printed
1918	- - -	3,144,698	- - -		2,194,936
1919	- - -	1,951,282	- - -		1,658,131
1920	- - -	2,516,269	- - -		3,781,294

Coals.—Coals, coke and patent fuel imported in 1920 amounted to Rs. 3,677,000 in value against Rs. 3,017,000 in 1919 and Rs. 1,914,000 in 1918, and the quantity of coal imported shows increases of 15,000 and 31,000 tons over the two preceding years. South Africa supplied almost all the coals.

Bags, Gunny.—Imports of bags, gunny (for the sugar export) represent an increase in value as compared with the previous year of Rs. 407,390. The number of gunny bags imported in each of the last three last three years is as follows :—

1918	- - -	2,284,800
1919	- - -	3,376,400
1920	- - -	3,902,800

Tobacco.—The total value of tobacco imported in 1920 was Rs. 2,341,123 showing an increase of Rs. 1,099,622 or 88 per cent over the previous year.

While the consumption of manufactured tobacco appears to be fairly stable, the quantity of cigarettes imported has increased enormously, being nearly five times that of the preceding year. The following are the figures :

1920	- - -	156,946 kilos.
1919	- - -	31,738
	- - -	<hr/>
an increase of	- - -	125,208 kilos.

Most of the cigarettes imported come from the United Kingdom. A similar increase showing the abundance of money in the island occurs in the quantity of champagne imported, the annual consumption of which rose from 6,770 bottles in 1918 to 22,251 bottles in 1920.

Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported rose from 34 in 1919 to 292 in 1920 valued at over one million rupees.

Specie. Large quantities were imported in 1920. The total quantity of specie is shown at Rs. 9,811,787. No coins were imported in any two of the previous years.

Imports for Home consumption.—The value of imports for home consumption was Rs. 93,949,715. In addition, goods valued at Rs. 2,236,615. were re-exported.

Sources of Imports.—The following countries are the principal sources of supply ; percentages of values are given for each :

	1916 value Rs.1000	per cent.	1917 value Rs.1000	per cent.	1918 value Rs.1000	per cent.	1919 value Rs.1000	per cent.	1920 value Rs. 1000	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	15,943	29.7	10,939	26.	27,016	16.3	11,423	24.3	23,771	27.5
India ...	22,476	41.9	17,107	40.6	4,401	58.9	14,433	30.7	28,297	32.8
Other parts of the British Empire.	3,310	6.1	4,943	11.8	5,722	13.3	8,966	19	11,209	12.6
Foreign Countries ...	11,927	22.2	9,106	21.6	5,782	13.5	12,225	26	23,094	26.8
Total ...	53,616	100	42,095	100	42,921	100	47,037	100	86,371	100

It will be seen from the above statement that the United Kingdom's share of Mauritius import trade is very satisfactory and has not been affected by the war. The largest imports from the United Kingdom are in manufactured articles of every description and there is evidence from the following table that importations from the United Kingdom, which had greatly diminished during the war, show encouraging signs of restoration.

Total value in Rupees of imports from United Kingdom :

1916	- - -	Rs. 16,208,222
1917	- - -	11,043,426
1918	- - -	7,016,235
1919	- - -	11,422,848
1920	- - -	23,827,889

The increase is most marked when it is remembered that the figure of 23 million for 1920 is arrived at by converting at the rate of Rs. 10 to the £ 1. Had the rate been calculated at Rs. 15, as in 1916, the total value of imports from the United Kingdom would have been more than double the 1916 value.

As compared with 1919, most of the principal imports show increases both in quantity and value :—

Principal Imports from United States	1919		1920	
	Quantities	Value in Rs.	Quantity	Value in Rs.
		Rs.		Rs.
Cotton, coloured metres ...	1,105,359	667,953	2,643,828	1,571,369
Hardware ...	---	352,047	---	830,362
Iron Sheets (galvd) Kil ...	344,902	160,873	1,283,790	778,218
Machinery for local industry ...	532,631	689,861	2,193,335	2,389,008
Machinery for Tramways ...	---	8,026	---	1,614,655
Manures, Ammonia Sulphate for,	5,169,624	2,406,332	8,013,855	3,435,313
Tobacco, Cigarettes and Cigars...	5,918	71,598	56,409	939,861
Wollen, Mixed metres ...	14,587	66,361	119,249	289,825

As compared with 1916, iron goods (including machinery) and tobacco cigars and cigarettes show considerable increases both in quantity and value, as follows :

Imports from United Kingdom	Year	Quantity in Kil.	Value in Rs.
Iron sheets (galvanized) - - - {	1916	513,131	238,871
	1920	1,283,790	778,218
Machinery for local industry {	1916	1,234,106	1,141,886
	1920	2,193,335	2,389,008
Tobacco cigars and cigarettes {	1916	2,730	33,005
	1920	56,409	939,861

Some items however show increases in value but decreases in quantity compared with 1916 due to inflated prices. Thus :—

	Year	Quantity	Value in Rs.
Cotton coloured - - - {	1916	5,308,835 met.	1,366,960
	1920	2,643,828	1,571,369
Manures ammonia sul- phate for {	1916	10,140 tons	3,174,805
	1920	8,014 „	3,435,313

India. The largest share of the import trade is held by India and a considerable portion of the amount comes under the section of "Food and Drink," especially grains, oils, seeds and spices. India has also supplied us last year with Rs. 9,758,738 bullion and specie.

The following statement shows the extent of trade with India in each of the years from 1916 to 1920 :

Total value in rupees of imports from India exclusive of specie.	
1916	Rs. 22,476,049
1917	17,107,403
1918	24,401,249
1919	14,432,827
1920	28,246,629

It is of interest to note that whereas large decreases occur in the most important classes of imports from India as compared with 1916, the value of these imports have risen in the reverse order thus —

Principal Imports from India	Year	Quantity	Value in Rs.
Bags, gunny - - - {	1916	No. 5,233,000	2,436,945
	1920	3,902,800	3,265,687
Corn, Dholl - - - {	1916	Kil. 4,989,988	842,182
	1920	3,072,573	1,006,897
Corn, Rice - - - {	1916	68,777,909	12,304,957
	1920	45,599,021	15,149,683
Oil, Mustard - - - {	1916	1,022,005	615,657
	1209	713,810	766,130

This table clearly indicates the general rise in value of some of the most indispensable commodities, for those who live largely on goods imported from India.

Other parts of the British Empire.: South Africa shows a considerable increase, the value of importations being Rs. 6,359,243 as compared with Rs. 5,972,640 in 1919; Australia coming next with Rs. 2,927,193 as compared with Rs. 2,202,661 in 1919. South Africa still heads the list of countries from which coal and wines are imported into Mauritius. French wines however show considerable increases over the war figures, but the consumption is not such as to affect the South African products.

The chief import from Australia was flour. Singapore appears next on the list with a total of Rs. 1,063,973 as compared with Rs. 423,621 for the previous year.

Ceylon occupies the next place, with a total of Rs. 203,897 out of which Rs. 179,795 represents the value of tea exported to Mauritius.

Foreign Countries. Saigon heads the list chiefly due to increased shipments of rice the value of which is given as Rs. 6,812,504 out of a total of Rs. 6,814,059. France shows a noticeable increase, Rs. 4,486,291 as compared with Rs. 1,616,090 in the previous year; Madagascar occupies the next place with Rs. 4,349,787, as compared with Rs. 2,898,617 in 1919; then the United States of America the total value of goods supplied amounting to Rs. 2,508,904 as against Rs. 2,419,451 in 1919.

Shipments of bullocks from Madagascar show striking increases thus:—

Cows and Oxen	For food	For other purposes	Total
—	—	—	—
1918 - - -	1119	- - - ... - - -	1.119
1919 - - -	3125	- - - ... - - -	3.125
1920 - - -	5925	- - - 3822 - - -	9.747

The United States are chiefly represented by motor-cars; they are also, with Sumatra, the chief suppliers of petroleum and petrol spirits.

The trade with other foreign countries is thus represented. Reunion Island stands first for manufactured tobacco; Sweden for matches; Holland for margarine, and Portugal for provisions preserved. Japan supplies about 30% of the imports of matches and has continued to supply imitation goods and toys. Imports from China are chiefly rice and lard.

The imports from Belgium were valued at Rs. 327,214, whilst German goods only represent in value Rs. 45,703.

EXPORTS

The following table gives the direction of the export trade, with percentage of value taken by each country :—

	1916		1917		1918		1919		1920	
	value	per cent.	value	per cent.	value	per cent.	value	per cent.	value	per cent.
	Rs. 1000	per	Rs. 1000	per	Rs. 1000	per	Rs. 1000	per	Rs. 1000	per
United Kingdom ...	24,140	33.2	31,487	54.	21,258	38.2	96,362	75.4	96,656	77
India ...	11,057	15.2	6,726	11.9	25,864	45.5	12,479	9.8	9,646	7.6
France ...	34,511	47.5	15,874	27.2	1	...	8,960	7.0	6,106	4.7
Other Countries ...	2,974	4.1	4,031	6.9	8,530	15.3	10,605	7.8	13,109	10.0
Total ...	72,682	100	55,320	100	58,653	100	127,806	100	127,497	100

The value of local products and manufactures exported during 1920 amounted to Rs. 125,270,690 and the value of re-exports to Rs. 2,236,615.

The Mauritius products and manufactures exported in order of value are as follows :—

	Quantity	Value in Rupees
Sugar tons	182,465	124,633,854
Alce fibre "	874	248,440
Rum litres	58,416	26,354
Hides and Skins	—	15,120
Vanilla kilos	142	1,400
Machinery "	—	92,630
Coconut oil litres	138,113	108,783
Shells tortoise	—	35,922
Postal parcels	—	31,830

Nearly the whole export trade is represented by sugar.

The approximate value and quantity of Mauritius Sugar exported in each of the years 1912 to 1920 is shown in the following table :—

Year	Quantity in kilog.	Value in Rupees
1912	206,066,889	35,237,438
1913	187,771,850	30,700,697
1914	269,372,102	57,874,421
1915	225,139,526	54,105,494
1916	230,559,715	69,309,970
1917	190,820,657	54,539,232
1918	183,221,889	53,882,002
1919	302,826,129	125,103,201
1920	182,464,726	124,633,854

The total value of the sugar crop 1920-21 will be about Rs. 230,000,000 and the quantity shipped up to 31st December represents a little less than half of this amount.

SHIPPING

FOREIGN TRADE

The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1920 was 371 with a net tonnage of 716,758, an increase of 56 vessels and 78,133 tons as compared with 1919.

There were 194 arrivals of 375,624 tons and 177 departures of 341,134 tons, of which 80.3 per cent were British as summarised below :—

	Number		Tons	
British steamers entered	...	111	...	263,469
do. cleared	...	104	...	231,441
British sailing vessels entered	...	44	...	14,305
do. cleared	...	31	...	13,468
Total British		118	...	530,611
Foreign steamers entered	...	31	...	17,851
do. cleared	...	34	...	88,117
Foreign sailing vessels entered
do. cleared
Total number and Tons		371	...	716,758

COASTING TRADE

The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1921 was 35 with a tonnage of 11,961, an increase of 2 vessels and 4227 tons as compared with 1919.

There were 18 arrivals of 7147 tons and 17 departures of 6,911, all of which were British.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES

The only important crop grown in Mauritius is sugar. There are 170,000 acres, about 35 per cent. of the total area of the Colony, at present under cane cultivation.

The total acreage of estates with factories (of which there are 54 at work) is estimated at 55,000 acres. Of the remainder 38,000 acres are cultivated as estates of over 100 acres without factory and 76,000 by personal proprietors, mostly Indian.

During the year additional areas have been brought under cultivation estimated to amount to at least 2,000 acres. This increase has occurred chiefly in the district of Black River where new areas have been opened under the La Ferme Irrigation Scheme.

ALOE FIBRE

Aloe fibre is produced mainly from the leaves of *Fourcroya Gigantea* (Mauritius hemp), a plant which grows wild all over the Colony. The area under aloe is estimated as about 20,000 acres. 2,000 tons of fibre are produced annually but the market has been very limited since the war.

A certain area has been put under Sisal for which considerable areas of land is well adapted.

COCONUTS

Coconut plantations are receiving attention in the coastal belt and there are about 800 acres under cultivation in Mauritius. There are no oil mills in the Colony itself but the cultivation of the nuts and extraction of oil etc., constitutes the principal industry of the small islands forming the dependencies of Mauritius.

The exports from these islands in 1920 amounted to :—

Coconut oil	964,708 litres	valued at Rs.	196,622
Copra	... 425 tons	„	73,811
Poonac	... 630 „	„	15,865

As the demand for oils and fats is practically unlimited this industry offers considerable scope for developement.

TOBACCO

Tobacco of the Reunion type grows well in the Colony and a government factory has been recently opened in Port Louis. The produce meets with a ready sale and there appears to be a possibility of opening up a profitable industry for the supply of local requirements.

OTHER CROPS

Exports of vanilla are negligible. In 1920 a little over 3,000 kilos were exported of a value of about Rs. 4,200.

Locally grown tea is consumed on a large scale in this Colony but there is little likelihood of an export trade being built up.

Cocoa grows well and a small amount of chocolate is manufactured locally.

Citrus fruits, especially limes and lemons, are attracting special attention.

Tropical fruits grow freely near the coast but no attempt has been made so far to establish a fruit preserving or jam making industry.

FOOD CROPS

Maize, manioc, sweet potatoes, ground nuts &c., are grown but owing to the high prices received for sugar and cane the efforts to increase the production of food crops have been considerably discounted. It is estimated that, at the end of 1920, the area under cultivation in food crops and vegetables did not exceed 7,000 acres which is far short of what is required.

LIVE STOCK

An important advance was recorded during the year by the inauguration of the Mauritius Stock Breeders' Association to improve the local breed.

SALT INDUSTRY

There are four salines at present operating in Mauritius from which the total production averages about 9,811 tons per annum. The salines consist of a series of basins into which sea water is admitted and concentrated by the heat of the sun. As the solution becomes more concentrated, it is run into successive basins and in the last of these crystallisation takes place.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES

The Director of Agriculture reports as follows : Co-operative Credit Societies were first established in Mauritius in 1913 and their working is regulated under Ordinance 4 of that year. The plan on which these Societies are worked follows closely that which has been established in India ; the system may now be regarded as firmly established in the Colony and is proving itself thoroughly well adapted to the requirements of a considerable number of the small planters. At the end

of 1920, 32 Societies had been registered and were without exception working satisfactorily. On June 30th 1920, the total amount of Working Capital to the credit of the Societies was Rs. 365,857 of which Rs. 129,919 represented Share Capital and Rs. 66,219 Reserve Fund. The total membership of the Societies on the same date was 1,171. During the latter part of the year, considerable additions were made to the number of Societies and to the total membership, six new Societies being registered between August and December 1919. The result is largely due to increased appreciation of the advantages of the system amongst small planters.

INDUSTRIES—(EXCLUSIVE OF AGRICULTURE)

(a) Nature of Industry	Approximate amount of persons employed	Raw material used	Approximate output Quantity	Annual Value
				Rs.
1. Engineering ...	4,500	...		2,000,000
2. Bakeries ...	800	Wheat Flour	3,200 T.	2,000,000
3. Docks (landing Shipping etc.)	1,700	...	...	1,000,000
4. Fisheries ...	1,500	Sea fish	1,000 T.	500,000
5. Lime Burning ...	650	Coral	16,000 T.	330,000
6. Distilleries ...	30	Molasses	1,700,000 lit.	300,000
7. Electric light and Power Supply	70	Hydraulic Power	...	230,000
8. Salt ...	50	Sea water	1,700 T.	170,000
9. Leather Tanning	30	Hides of some 8,000 oxen	...	170,000
10. Ice making ...	...	...	900 T.	125,000
11. Oil (ground nuts)	...	...	50,000 lit.	100,000
12. Vinegar making ..	...	Rum	34,000 lit.	10,000

Among minor Industries may be mentioned biscuits, aerated water, manure, furniture, charcoal, pottery, alce ropes, vacoas bags etc.

Distilleries.—The manufacture of industrial alcohol on a large scale is likely to increase. At present alcohol is produced mainly for consumption as Rum. The raw material used is the molasses produced in the cane sugar industry.

LEGISLATION

59 Ordinances were passed during the year 1920 of which the following are the more important of those which are likely to be of interest outside the colony :—

The Treaty of Peace Ordinance, 1920, (No. 8) which adapts to the circumstances of the Colony the provisions of the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919.

The Pension Law Amendment Ordinance 1920 (No. 10) which makes service in Mauritius continuous with service in the following Colonies for pension purposes : Seychelles, Trinidad, the Leeward islands, Jamaica.

The Profiteering Ordinance 1920 (No. 22) which is adapted from the Imperial Act 1919 with certain modifications.

The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance 1920 (No. 40) which was introduced for the purpose of recognizing the certificates of competency of Master and Mates, issued in Seychelles.

The Profiteering (Additional Powers) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1920 (No. 52), articles 2 and 3 of which amend Ordinance No. 22 of 1920: article 2 by enabling the Local Committee to disregard the fact of successive sales, when the consequence of such sales has been an undue inflation of price; article 3, by making it an offence on the part of a person against whom a complaint has been lodged, to refuse to sell to the complainant or to certain other persons connected with the complaint. The other articles deal with unreasonable rents, to the investigation and control of which the jurisdiction of the Local Committee is extended.

Those provisions are mainly borrowed from the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interests (War Restrictions) Act 1915 (5 & 6 Geo. 5 Ch. 97) and from a South Africa Bill entitled "The Rents Act, 1920" published in the "Union Gazette Extraordinary" of the 30th March, 1920.

The Maintenance Orders (Facilities or Enforcement) Ordinance, 1920. No. 58) which reproduces the provisions of the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1920.

EDUCATION

At the close of the year there were 147 primary schools in the Colony, 56 Government, and 91 denominational schools assisted by Government grants, of which 67 were Roman Catholics, 19 Church of England, 2 Presbyterians, 1 Hindoo and 2 Mahomedans.

The average attendance was 15,919 compared with 14,326 in 1919. The attendance of Indian children increased considerably from the previous year and now totals 12,599 giving an average of 80 pupils per school.

During the year 254 candidates competed for the Boys' Scholarship Examination which gives admission to the Royal College. Of these 211 failed in the preliminary test and of the others 27 passed. Six scholarships and six exhibitions were awarded.

There were 128 students for the four Girls' Scholarships, of whom 18 passed. 261 students (99 men and 162 women) entered for Teachers' certificates during the year 8 of whom (2 men and 6 women) passed. 40 First class certificates were granted.

Technical instruction in woodwork.—The average number of pupils on roll in the Port Louis Technical school was 30 and the number attending the Primary School classes was 115. The average attendance per day was 21 and 50 respectively.

Manual training as a class subject continues to be popular in the five country schools where such classes exist. Good work was fairly general and over 180 boys received instruction in this subject.

Agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with the Government schools. The number of schools possessing gardens was 31—18 Government and 13 Aided schools.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Eleven secondary schools received grants from Government during the year. Of these schools five are for boys only, the others admitting both boys and girls.

The higher education of boys is conducted at the Royal College.

During the year 105 new boys joined the Royal College and the highest number of pupils on the College roll was reached in 1920 with a total of 324.

There are two scholarships offered annually in the highest form, which is examined by the Cambridge University Examination Syndicate, of the value of £1,000 each, tenable for four or five years, with £75 passage allowance to or from England. The holders may join any University in the British Empire or study at any scientific or technical institution in the United Kingdom.

From 1st January 1920 those scholarship allowances were temporarily increased by 30 per cent.

The following statement gives the results of the Senior Cambridge Local Examinations for the last four years :—

Examination	Entries	Absentees	Candidates sitting for examination	Candidates sitting for full certificate	Passes	Candidates sitting for supplementary certificate	Passes
July 1917	25	...	25	14	6	11	5
Decem. 1917...	94	9	85	71	26	14	5
July 1918	34	2	32	22	13	10	5
Decem. 1918...	80	9	71	56	22	15	5
July 1919	45	14	31	23	5	8	3
Decem. 1919...	88	6	82	72	36	10	2
July 1920	76	18	58	47	24	11	11
Decem. 1920	117	22	95	82	29	13	11

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

RAILWAYS

The total length of the Mauritius Government Railway is 120 miles, exclusive of the Bois Chéri light railway of about 10 miles in length. The gauge of the main line is 4 feet 8½ inches.

The revenue derived during the year was Rs. 3,830,024 against Rs. 2,980,830 in 1919 or an increase of Rs. 849,194 as compared with the preceding year. This figure does not include Government traffic which amounts to Rs. 380,598.

The receipts for passenger traffic showed an increase of Rs. 613,714 compared with last year. As regards goods traffic the tonnage conveyed was 603,592 tons as compared with 524,978 tons in the previous year.

The working expenses for the year amounted to Rs. 3,614,423 as against Rs. 3,523,520 in the preceding year.

The capital cost was Rs. 32,984,153 at 31 December 1920.

The results of the year's working is as follows :

Receipts	...	Rs. 3,687,147
Working expenses	...	3,614,423

BOIS CHERI

There is a light railway of 2 feet 6 inches gauge running from the Savanne branch. The total goods traffic carried in 1920 amounted to 32,520 tons of which 29,624 tons were sugar cane, as against a total traffic of 21,498 tons and 18,644 tons of sugar cane in 1919. The actual working expenses for 1920 were Rs. 56,486, the earnings Rs. 17,165 and the work done for Government Departments was valued at Rs. 2,078.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS

At the end of the year there were 60 post offices open in the island, of which 57 were also telegraph offices.

The total revenue of the Department was Rs. 371,098 and the total expenditure Rs. 273,508, showing an excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 97,590. The sale of stamped postal matter amounted to Rs. 229,893 against Rs. 172,633 in the previous year.

There were 665 miles of Government telegraph lines and 147 miles of telephone lines in operation during the year.

Telegrams can be sent to all parts of the world from any railway station through the Eastern Telegraph Company in Port Louis. There is also an Admiralty Wireless Telegraph Station erected during the war as a war station and utilised since the Armistice for commercial traffic.

Telephonic communication constituted and owned by the Oriental Telephone Company has been gradually increasing and at the close of the year there were 6 public exchanges open, with 1,526 miles of wire.

STEAMSHIPS

Mails are regularly received and despatched by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company, Castle Line, Clan Line and Messageries Maritimes Company.

Communication with Rodrigues is maintained by H.M.C.S. *Secunder* and with the other Dependencies by sailing vessels at regular intervals.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

The road system of the Colony consists of main roads under the control of the Director of Public Works and branch roads under local District Boards. The main roads with a total mileage of 442 miles were maintained at a cost of Rs. 367,682, or at an average rate of Rs. 832 per mile. The branch roads comprising some 150 miles were maintained at a cost of Rs. 35,799 or an average rate of Rs. 240 per mile.

Improvements continue to be made in the main roads by the system of rolling the surface of the roads. Over $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles of surface were so treated during the year.

A sum of Rs. 61,500 was also spent by the Public Works Department in reconstructing three small timber bridges in reinforced concrete.

IRRIGATION

The revenue derived from water delivered for irrigation from La Ferme reservoir amounted to Rs. 61,500, compared with Rs. 44,100 in the previous financial year. During the year additional

areas under the Reservoir have been brought under cane cultivation estimated to amount to 600 acres. The total area of irrigable land under this reservoir is about 3,000 acres.

In connection with the scheme for the larger project at La Nicolière progress was delayed by lack of labour. The main dam was started and the construction of the culvert for taking the water across the dam was also taken in hand.

STATISTICAL AND OTHER BOOKS OF REFERENCE CONCERNING MAURITIUS

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G. M. Harriott (Mauritius 1913 and 1914).

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Hart, Robert Edward : Les Volontaires Mauriciens aux Armées (Mauritius, 1919.)

Port Louis,
1st October 1921.

L. KOENIG,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

MAP OF THE ISLAND OF MAURITIUS

TO ACCOMPANY THE
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

Meridian thro' POUCE
57°34'E. Greenwich

1. aux Serpents
Rond 1

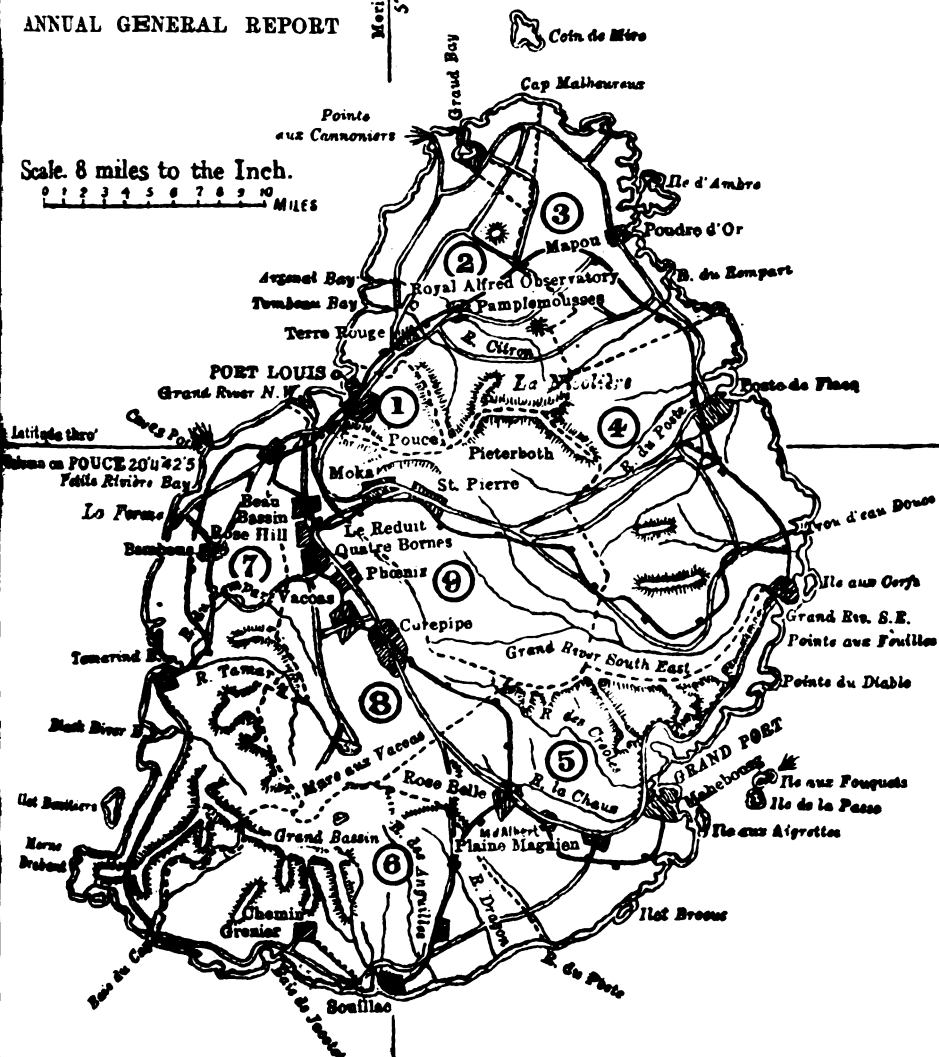
Flat Island
Gabriel I

Coin de Miro

Pointe
aux Canoniers

Scale. 8 miles to the Inch.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 MILES



DISTRICTS

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1 Port Louis | 6 Savanne |
| 2 Pamplemousses | 7 Black River |
| 3 Riv du Rempart | 8 P. Wilhelms |
| 4 Plaeq | 9 Moka |
| 5 Grand Port | |

REFERENCE

Existing Railways & Telegraphs.....
 Railway Stations.....
 Other Telegraph lines.....
 Narrow Gauge Light Railway.....
 Main Roads.....
 Light Houses.....

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1080	Fiji ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1081	Gibraltar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1083	Bechuanaland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1085	Basutoland..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1087	Barbados ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1090	Sierra Leone ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1091	Zanzibar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1092	Cayman Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1094	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1095	Bahamas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1097	Weihaiwei ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1098	Nigeria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1099	New Hebrides ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1100	Somaliland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1101	Straits Settlements ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1102	Swaziland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1106	Seychelles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1107	Ashanti ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1108	Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1109	British Guiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1110	British Honduras ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1111	Malta ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1112	Uganda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1113	Leeward Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies ..	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute ..	..	..	..	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate..	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General ..	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island ..	..	..	..	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1116.

JAMAICA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919-20, see No. 1067.)



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1922.

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J A M A I C A.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1920.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

1. Jamaica is an island in the Caribbean Sea, to the southward of the eastern extremity of the Island of Cuba, within N. lat. $17^{\circ} 42' 20''$ and $18^{\circ} 32' 30''$ and W. long. $76^{\circ} 11' 55''$ and $78^{\circ} 23' 35''$. It is the largest island of the British West Indies, the extreme length being 144 miles and the greatest width 49 miles.

2. The island is divided into three counties and fourteen parishes, namely:—

Surrey.

			Sq. Mls.
Kingston	..	..	7
St. Andrew	..	..	166
St. Thomas	..	..	274
Portland	..	..	285
Total	..	..	732

Middlesex.

			Sq. Mls.
St. Catherine	..	..	470
St. Mary	..	..	249
Clarendon	..	..	474
St. Ann	..	..	476
Manchester	..	..	302
Total	..	..	1,971

Cornwall.

			Sq. Mls.
St. Elizabeth	..	..	462
Trelawny	..	..	333
St. James	..	..	234
Hanover	..	..	157
Westmoreland	..	..	308
Total	..	..	1,504

giving a total of 4,207 square miles, equal to 2,692,587 acres, of which, approximately, 646 square miles, or 413,440 acres, are flat, consisting of alluvium, marl and swamps.

3. A great diversity of climate is obtainable. From a tropical temperature of 80° to 86° at the sea coast the thermometer falls to 45° and 50° on the tops of the highest mountains, and with a dryness of atmosphere that renders the climate of the mountains of Jamaica particularly delightful and suitable to the most delicate constitution.

The midland parts of the island are the highest. Through the county of Surrey and partly through Middlesex, there runs the great central chain which trends generally in an east and west direction, the highest part of which is the Blue Mountain Peak, attaining an elevation of 7,360 feet.

From this range subordinate ridges or spurs run northerly to the northside of the island and southerly to the southside: these ridges in their turn are the parents of other smaller ridges, which branch off in every direction with considerable regularity and method; and they again throw off other ridges, until the whole surface of the country is cut up into a series of ridges, with intervening gullies.

4. There are numerous rivers and streams, from which Jamaica derived its aboriginal Arawak name of Xaymaca, which is supposed to imply an overflowing abundance of rivers. The majority have a rapid fall and are not, to any extent, navigable.

5. There are many mineral springs in Jamaica, some of them possessing valuable qualities for the cure of various diseases and infirmities of the body.

The two principal are, the spring at Bath, in St. Thomas in the East, and the spring at Milk River in Clarendon.

6. Jamaica possesses several good harbours in the Island, the largest and most important being that of Kingston, the capital, which is considered one of the finest natural harbours in the world.

7. The following are dependencies of Jamaica, viz.—The Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands, also the Guano Islands, Pedro and Morant Cays.

HISTORICAL.

8. Jamaica was discovered by Columbus on the 3rd May, 1494. He called it St. Jago, after the Patron Saint of Spain, but the new name was soon dropped in favour of the native one of Jamaica (Xaymaca—well watered). The first settlement on it was effected on the shores of St. Ann's Bay, by Esquivel in 1509, under the direction of Diego, the son of Columbus, while Governor of Hispaniola. Although invaded by Sir Anthony Shirley in 1596, and by Colonel Jackson in 1643, it remained in the possession of the Spaniards for 161 years, when it was again attacked by a force sent by Cromwell, under Admiral Pen and General Venables, against Hispaniola, and capitulated, after a trifling resistance, on the 11th May, 1655. Until the Restoration, Jamaica remained under military jurisdiction but in 1660 a regular civil government was established by Charles II, who appointed General Edward Foyley Governor-in-Chief, with an Elective Council. In 1670 peace was made with Spain, and the title of England to Jamaica was recognised by the Treaty of Madrid. The colony grew fast, stimulated by the wealth brought into it by the buccaneers, who made Port Royal their headquarters and storehouse. This town was engulfed in the great earthquake of 1692. Kingston then consisted of a few sheds, and St. Jago de la Vega (Spanish Town) became practically the capital. During the 18th century the island suffered from hurricanes, earthquakes, numerous slave insurrections, as well as wars with the maroons, or mountaineers, the descendants of African slaves left by the Spaniards, who inhabited mainly the east of the island,

among the Blue Mountains. When the Slave Trade was abolished, in 1807, there were 323,827 slaves in Jamaica. During the last eight years of the trade, 86,821 slaves were imported. On the abolition of slavery in 1833, Jamaica received 6,161,927*l.* of the 20,000,000*l.* granted by the Imperial Government as compensation to the slave-owners. A serious rebellion among the black population in 1865 was suppressed by Governor Eyre with unnecessary violence, and he was recalled. In January, 1907, Kingston was devastated by a terrible earthquake, which caused great loss of life and immense destruction of property. A Mansion House Fund was opened, and contributions poured in from all partes of the Empire for the relief of distress. A free grant of 150,000*l.* was voted by Parliament, and a loan of 800,000*l.* chiefly in aid of rebuilding, was authorised from the Home Exchequer. Two buildings, the General Post Office and Treasury, and the King's House, the official residence of the Governor, were completed in 1910, and the Law Courts in 1913.

CONSTITUTION.

9. The original Constitution granted by Charles II., in 1662, which after existing for nearly 200 years, was surrendered in 1866, was a representative one, consisting of a Governor, a Privy Council, a Legislative Council, and an Assembly of 47 elected members. The depression caused by the abolition of slavery led to a grave constitutional crisis, the Assembly refusing to vote supplies, and endeavouring to enforce sweeping reductions in establishments, without compensation to the displaced officers. Lord Melbourne's Government, in 1829, actually introduced a Bill into Parliament for the suspension of the constitution, but was defeated, and it was not till 1854 that, by a change in the constitution of the Council, harmony was temporarily restored.

After the suppression of the rebellion in 1865, Governor Eyre, at the meeting of the Legislature, urged the unsuitability of the then existing form of Government to meet the circumstances of the community, and the necessity of making some sweeping change, by which a strong Government might be created. The Legislature willingly responded, abrogated all the existing machinery of legislation, and left it to Her Majesty's Government to substitute any other form of Government which might be better suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony.

A Legislative Council was, by Orders in Council of the 11th June, 1866, and 11th November, 1869, established, consisting of such numbers of official and unofficial members as Her Majesty might think fit. The numbers of each were six until 1878, when they were enlarged to eight and a ninth was added in 1881.

By Order in Council dated 19th May, 1884, and Amending Order of 3rd October, 1895, the constitution was fixed in the following manner:—

The Council to consist of the Governor (with only a casting vote); and five *ex-officio* members, viz. the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Director of Public Works and Collector General, and such other persons, not exceeding ten in number, as Her Majesty may from time to time appoint, or as the Governor may from time to time provisionally appoint, and fourteen persons to be elected as therein provided. The Council shall be dissolved at the end of five years from the last preceding general election, if it shall not have been previously dissolved.

There is also a Privy Council, with the usual powers and functions of an executive council. It consists of the Lieutenant-Governor, if any, the Senior Military Officer in command, the Colonial Secre-

tary, and Attorney-General and such other persons as may be named by the King, or provisionally appointed by the Governor subject to the approval of His Majesty, but the number of members is not to exceed eight. The Governor is to preside at each meeting, and the Governor and two members form a quorum.

10. The first registration under Law 22 of 1886 was in August, 1887. The revised lists showed that there was one elector to every 25 persons in the island.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

11. There are elective Parochial Boards in the town of Kingston and 14 other parishes, under Laws 13 of 1900 and 17 of 1901, with jurisdiction over roads, markets, sanitation, poor relief, water works, and pounds. The chief towns are Kingston (population in 1921, 62,562). Port Royal (population 1,004), Spanish Town (population 8,694), Port Antonio (population 6,272), Montego Bay (population 6,580), Falmouth (population 2,136), Port Maria (population 2,758), and Savanna-la-Mar (population 3,442).

12. The Parish is the unit of local Government, and each parish has its own parochial Institutions viz: poor-houses, etc., etc., managed by the Parochial Board of the parish, the members of which are elected by the persons entitled to vote for the election of members of the Legislative Council. The administration of poor relief by the Parochial Boards is controlled by a Board of Supervision. The several direct taxes received on property, horses, carriages, etc., etc., are devoted mainly to the parish in which they are collected, with the exception of a few items which go to the credit of the general revenue of the Colony.

13. There is a Supreme Court of Judicature together with Resident Magistrate Courts and Petty Sessions of Justices of the Peace throughout the Island. The Resident Magistrates, besides holding courts of their own, preside in the Courts of Petty Sessions.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

14. During the year under review the prosperity of the Colony, as judged by the values of the Imports and Exports, exceeded even that of the previous year (which was a record one), the value of the Imports during 1920 being £10,313,300, as compared with £5,085,600 during 1919; while that of the Exports was £7,146,000 during 1920, as against £5,627,300 during 1919.

But this is consequent on the extraordinarily high prices that prevailed during the year, rather than to the vast increase in quantity which the figures might be taken to indicate.

The causes which led up to these increases are dealt with fully under the sub-head "Imports and Exports."

15. In April, 1920, the Legislative Council passed a Resolution agreeing to send a representative from this Colony, accompanied by two advisers, to a Conference proposed to be held at Ottawa to consider the question of trade relations and transport facilities between the Dominion of Canada and the British West Indies. The Hon. E. St. J. Branch, K.C., Attorney General, was selected as this Colony's representative, and the Hon. Robt. Johnstone, C.M.G., I.S.O., Collector General, and the Hon. J. H. Phillipps, Member of the Legislative Council for St. Thomas, were appointed advisers.

The result of the Conference was that a Trade Agreement was entered into between the representatives of the Dominion and all the British West Indian Colonies, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, of the Parliament of Canada and of the Legis-

atures of each of the Colonies concerned. The Legislative Council of Jamaica approved of the Agreement on the 14th October, 1920.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

16. The Departures in 1918 were 8,773; in 1919, 23,618; in 1920 21,343.

The arrivals in 1918 were 5,102; in 1919 8,786; in 1920 23,783.

The marked increase during 1920 in the number of emigrants who returned to the Island, as compared with the two previous years, is due in great measure, to the considerable drop in the prices paid abroad for Sugar and Rum; many of the persons who returned to the Island went to Cuba on account of the high wages offered in that Republic to those engaged in the Sugar industry before the slump took place.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

17. Matters in connection with the health and sanitation of the Island have been receiving, for some time past, the earnest attention of the Government, and active steps were taken during the year under review for dealing with such matters.

18. The Rockefeller Foundation began extensive operations in Jamaica in connection with the treatment of Hookworm (ankylostomiasis), and the United Fruit Company inaugurated a system for medical attendance on their employees. Both these organisations have materially contributed to improve general health conditions in the Island. During the year under review the Government instituted a Sanitary Survey in one of the parishes, and the treatment of Hookworm is being actively carried out in this parish by the Foundation.

19. A step in furtherance of the movement for dealing effectively with hookworm, and one that is fraught with great potentialities in sanitary matters, generally, has been the appointment of a Superintending Inspector under the provisions of "The Health Laws," Law 35 of 1910, and Law 48 of 1920.

20. The outstanding Medical feature during the period under review was an epidemic of an eruptive fever known as Alastrim or Kaffir Milk Pox, which broke out in Kingston, in May, and from Kingston spread to the other parts of the Island. It is satisfactory to note that the death rate was exceptionally low.

A satisfactory feature in connection with this epidemic is that better protection now exists against small pox, (an ever present menace) than ever before in Jamaica, very large numbers of the inhabitants having been vaccinated and re-vaccinated.

VITAL STATISTICS.

21. The estimated population of Jamaica at the close of the year 1920 was 862,543, which is arrived at by taking the actual Census count of 24th April, 1921, adding thereto the Births and Arrivals and deducting therefrom the Deaths and Departures in the intervening period, 1st January, 1921, to date of Census.

22. 4,124 marriages were registered during 1920, the rate being 4.8 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 3.7 for 1919. During the same period, 34,943 births were registered, of which 17,841 were boys and 17,102 were girls. The birth rate works out at 40.8 per 1,000, as against 33.5 during 1919.

23. 21,707 deaths were registered, of which 10,936 were males and 10,771 females, the death rate being 25.3 per thousand. That for 1919 was 22.2

24. During 1920, 7,630, or 35.2 of the total deaths, were those of children under two years of age; and of these 6,028, or 27.8, were those of children under one year of age.

The corresponding figures in 1919 were 32.6 and 24.4. The total infantile death rate under one year was 17.2, as compared with 16.1 in 1919.

The principal causes of death among the inhabitants of Kingston, the capital, were:—

Phthisis, 12.4; Diarrhoea and Enteritis, 10.9; Heart Disease, 6.8; Atrophy, Icterus and Scleroma of the new born, 8.6; Chronic Brights Disease, 4.6; Enteric Fever, 4.5; Pneumonia, 4.1; Dysentery, 4.1.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

25. The amount collected for Import Duties during 1920-21 completely eclipsed the record yield of the previous year, being £957,324, an increase of £266,301 over that of 1919-20. When compared with the yield in 1918-19 it will be seen that the yield in 1920-21 was nearly two and a half times as much, the figures being £957,324 and £391,914 respectively. The value of the Imports in 1920 was £10,313,300, as against £5,085,600 in the year 1919 and £2,837,043 in the year 1913, so that in the year 1920 the value was three and a half times that of the previous year 1913.

The chief factors which were responsible for the increase were practically the same as those of last year, only more accentuated by conditions arising out of the War. In addition to the low rate of exchange between Jamaica and the United States of America and the continued soaring upwards of the values of goods which pay ad valorem duties, a third factor was the arrival of large quantities of merchandise ordered from twelve to eighteen months previous to their shipment. However, after discounting these factors, there was on the whole a very fair increase of trade.

26. The amount collected for Harbour and Light Dues in 1920-21 was £6,938 as against £5,310 in 1919-20. The increase of £1,628 was due partly to several new vessels plying between the Colony and the Dominion of Canada as the result of the Trade Agreement with that Dominion referred to afterwards, to vessels trading between Australasia and Europe calling here and lastly to a succession of large Tourist Boats which included Jamaica in their itinerary.

27. The Special Customs Duties imposed as temporary measures due to conditions arising out of the War and a succession of hurricanes i.e., Export Duties and additional Import Duties amounted to £35,502 and £56,305, respectively, as against £41,247 and £34,145 in 1919-20. The decrease in the former was due to the falling off of the export of Log-wood Extract and Hides during the latter half of the year. The Package Tax Law 9 of 1919, continued by Law 7 of 1920, realised a total of £61,718. Three-fourths of this is allocated by Law to General Revenue, viz: £46,288 and the remaining one fourth to Parochial Revenue, viz: £15,430.

28. As in the case of Imports the value of the Exports during the year 1920 quite eclipsed that of the previous year reaching the phenomenal figure of £7,146,010 as against £5,627,329 in 1919, being an increase of £1,518,681 or 26%. If a comparison is made with 1918 the year under review shows a value of over two and a half times as much. Paragraph 25 of this report shews that the yield of Import Duties in 1920 was nearly two and a half times that in 1918 and the value of the imports three and a half times that of the pre-war year 1913. The principal items conducing to this enormous total are:—Sugar £2,994,256,

Bananas £1,626,665, Logwood Extract £431,451, Coconuts £387,656, Rum £288,147, Logwood £268,662 and Cocoa £211,882. These seven items alone amount to £6,148,719, being fully 86% of the whole, leaving £997,921 to be divided amongst the minor products and re-Exports (£123,815).

The abnormally high prices obtained for our products during the first three-quarters of the Calendar year are largely responsible for the increase. Those of September Quarter, where they reached their zenith, are worthy of notice, viz:—

Sugar £75 per ton, Bananas £20 per 100 bunches, Logwood Extract £20 per package, Coconuts £14 per 1,000, Rum 8/ per gallon, Logwood £9 per ton and Cocoa 100/ per cwt. As to quantities, Bananas again reached the nine million mark as in the previous year; coconuts reached twenty eight millions; while sugar totalled 733.287 cwt. or 36,664 tons.

29. During the year 1920 the Legislature, acting on the report of a Select Committee, enacted Law 17 of 1920, thereby giving a preference of 40% to the United Kingdom in respect of Cotton piece-goods and a further preference of 10% if such goods were made entirely of cotton grown within the British Empire. This preference was subsequently extended to the rest of the British Empire. The concession (although only in force for the latter half of the year) together with the partial reversion of the trade back to the United Kingdom after the close of the war, succeeded in lifting the proportion of British Trade in this commodity from the very low figure of 16% in 1919 to 36% in 1920. In the year 1914 the figure had been 64%.

30. For the purpose of comparison there is set out below the value of the Imports and Exports of the Island during the last forty years and the amount collected as Import Duties:—

	1880.	1890.	1900.	1910.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Value of Imports—					
	1,475,200	2,153,700	1,652,700	2,614,900	10,313,300
Value of Exports—					
	1,513,000	1,902,800	1,797,000	2,568,200	7,146,000
Import Duties—					
	253,900	366,700	337,500	4,8400	927,700

31. It will be seen that in respect of the years taken for comparison, except the last, the value of the Exports was from five to six times the Import Duties collected, the variation being from 5.3 to 5.9 times. During the year 1920 the exports were in value 7.7 times the amount collected in Import Duties. Taking the thirty years from 1880 to 1910 as more or less normal times, it is seen that on the average the Import Duties were 17% of the value of the Exports, while in the year 1920, although there was a considerable increase in Import Duties, yet the value of the Exports had reached such a high figure that the percentage was only about 12%. If the more usual proportion between Import Duties and the value of Exports above referred to had prevailed, the Import Duties in 1920-21 would have amounted to £1,286,300 instead of £927,700, or £358,600 more.

32. Particularly in the year 1920 it would not be correct to gauge the value of Imports from the Import Duties collected as they include specific duties on rated articles, the fluctuation of their values in no way affecting the duties collected.

33. On the whole the year 1920 was a very prosperous one and greatly improved the financial conditions of the Island. During the last quarter of the year, however, a slump occurred in the markets abroad and the prices of our products came down with a rush, thus forcing the planters either to sell at a loss or withhold shipments. But for this it would be safe to assume that the value of our exports would have been more on a par with the value of Imports. A remark made in last year's Report may be repeated here, viz: that it is inadvisable for persons to emigrate to Jamaica unless they are in possession of a fair amount of capital and have had some training in tropical agriculture. Notwithstanding a decline in wholesale prices the cost of living still remains nearly as high as the year before, as far as the consumer is concerned.

34. The balance of trade against Jamaica for the Calendar year 1920 was £3,167,300:—

Value of Exports	..	£ 7,146,000
Value of Imports	..	10,313,300
Balance	..	<u>£ 3,167,300</u>

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

35. The following statement shows totals of Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony during the past five years:—

REVENUE.

1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
1,154,349	1,052,485	1,157,304	1,802,778	2,347,362

EXPENDITURE.

1,076,237	1,098,409	1,228,608	1,444,818	2,332,635
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The total surplus of Revenue over Expenditure during the year 1920-1921 was £14,727.

36. The Assets and Liabilities were £1,078,403 and £734,102, respectively. The credit balance at the close of the year was therefore £344,301.

37. The amount of Public Debt outstanding at 31st March, 1921, was £4,011,561.

TAXATION.

38. *Law 13-1920. A Law further to amend the Stamp Duty Law 1903 (Law 40 of 1903).*—The principal features of this Law are, that it reduces the rates on Foreign Marine Insurances very considerably and remits entirely the duty on Coastwise Policies.

The Fire, Life and Accident Policies, however remain the same as in Law 17 of 1910.

39. *Law No. 15-1920. A Law to amend and make permanent the duty on entertainments imposed by Law 14 of 1919.*—Certain minor alterations were made in the rates of Taxation in the 1919 Law and instead of being only of a temporary nature the law of 1920 has been made permanent.

40. *Law No. 40-1920. A Law to amend Law 21 of 1916 entitled a Law to provide for the payment of Estate Duty on property passing on the*

death of any person.—The principal feature of this amending Law is that it exempts Estates up to £500 value from taxation for Estate Duty.

41. *Law No. 17-1920. The Tariff Amendment Law, 1920.*—This Law was assented to on 10th June, 1920 and provides that Cotton piece-goods (as defined in Section 2 of the Law) manufactured in the United Kingdom when imported direct into this Island from the United Kingdom or when imported in accordance with regulations made by the Governor in Privy Council shall be subject to a duty of £10, on every £100 value, and any such Cotton piece-goods so manufactured and imported shall, if made entirely of cotton grown within the British Empire be subject to a duty of £8 6s. 8d. on every £100 value.

By a subsequent resolution of the Legislative Council on the 15th June, 1920, this preference, as provided for in the law, was extended to all other parts of the British Empire. The general rate at present is 16 and two thirds per cent. advalorem so that the preference above given is one of 40% and 50% respectively.

42. *Law No. 43-1920. A Law further to amend the Property Tax Laws and to make provision for the Imposition of a Super-Tax.*—The principal features are (1) that it exempts properties of less value than £200 from being further taxed by reason of the erection on such property of a dwelling house including domestic outbuildings or by improvements to a dwelling house including its domestic outbuildings unless the value of such property is thereby increased beyond the amount of £200 and (2) that it imposes a Super-tax on properties owned by any person the total values of which as shown on the Valuation Roll amounts to or exceeds in the aggregate the sum of £15,000.

INCOME TAX.

43. As soon as the original Income Tax Law No. 24, 1919 reached the stage of practical working, it was found to require amendment in certain respects. The following Laws designed to effect the required purpose were accordingly enacted, viz:

Income Tax Amendment Law, No. 39 of 1920: In addition to strengthening existing provisions, and introducing new sections to cover liabilities not dealt with, or fully dealt with in the original Law, the amendment law extended exemption from duty to the incomes of Parochial Boards, the Kingston General Commissioners, and any Government Institutions, also to the pay and allowances of members of His Majesty's Regular Forces on the Active List, wounds and disability pensions and War gratuities.

No provision was made in the original law for repayment of duty, except (under Section 13) in the case of incomes "doubly assessed." This omission was remedied in the Amendment Law.

Income Tax Amendment Law 1920 (No. 2) No. 50-1920:—This consisted of only one section, introduced at the instance of the Insurance Companies doing business in this Island, in order to lay down the precise basis on which the returns of the assessable incomes of life and other Insurance Companies should be rendered.

CURRENCY.

44. Under Law 27 of 1904, local Currency Notes, which are made legal tender under Section 5, have been issued to the extent of £206,212 15/ in denominations of 2/6, 5/ and 10/.

2/6 notes	5/ notes	10/ notes	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
29,787 15 0	101,950 0 0	74,475 0 0	206,212 15 0

III.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

TRADE.

45. Although the year 1920 shews a balance of Trade against us to the extent of over three million pounds, yet it must be remembered that the high cost of manufactured articles and materials abroad, together with the low rate of exchange existing between the Colony and the United States of America, helped to force the value of Imports up to a phenomenal figure. A comparison of the Imports for the last five years will fully support this:—

1916	..	..	3,107,004
1917	..	..	3,323,865
1918	..	..	3,381,758
1919	..	..	5,085,615
1920	..	..	10,313,282

46. After however discounting all the factors peculiar to the times, there can be no doubt that there was an actual increase of trade particularly in the first nine months of the year, a year which bids fair to stand alone for many years in many of the statistics relating to trade in Jamaica. There have been a few changes with regard to sources of supply, and destination of our products. In the case of Imports the United Kingdom shows a substantial increase in percentage while the United States of America shows a decided decrease. As regards the Exports, Canada absorbed 21.9% of the total, as compared with 6.9% the year before, a very appreciable increase. On the other hand there was a decrease of about 20% in the case of the United Kingdom, which points to the fact that her loss was Canada's gain for the most part, while the United States' share of the Exports increased by 4.4%. Canada's gain was mostly in respect of Sugar and Rum. There was also a slight increase of Exports to "Other Countries" due mainly to France taking the largest quantity of our Logwood and to the Bahamas which took a larger quantity of Spirits.

47. The wave of prosperity referred to in the last report (although not amongst all classes) continued throughout the Colony in the first half of the year now under review. The peasantry received highly remunerative prices for their products and during this period large sums of money steadily flowed into the Island from the labourers who had emigrated to the cane fields of the neighbouring Republic of Cuba. The slump in the prices of native grown products, however, and the collapse of the Cuban Sugar Industry somewhat altered this condition of affairs as is referred to elsewhere in this Report.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

48. *The Year* 1920 was remarkable for the serious lack of rainfall which was the lowest average recorded for the past 48 years. The agriculture of the Island therefore experienced a serious set-back. Coincident with this bad fortune for the producers of the Colony, however, arose a condition of unprecedented inflation in the world's markets for all descriptions of tropical produce, whereby the export trade of the Colony achieved a record in value.

A year that would otherwise have been one of very low returns has thus stood out as the banner year in the trade of the Colony. Sugar, Rum, Logwood, Cacao, Coffee, Coconuts, Bananas and an array of

minor products all sold at high prices, and every class of the agricultural community shared in this good fortune. The natural reaction on the value of land resulted from this era of high prices, and properties, both great and small, changed hands at large increases over former values.

49. *The Sugar Industry* suffered somewhat severely from the drought, so that the exports did not exceed 37,000 tons of Sugar, which was a good deal below the original estimates for the crop, and even less than that for 1919 despite a large increase in cultivation and factory capacity. So high was the price of Sugar, however, that this reduced crop, after providing for local consumption, brought in three million pounds (£3,000,000), while 7,400 puncheons of rum were exported to the value of £290,000.

The capacity of the factories now in existence, or in process of erection, is sufficient to maintain an export of about 60,000 tons of Sugar per annum, if a remunerative market can be assured. The recent revival in the prosperity of the Banana industry has checked the transfer of Banana Cultivation to Sugar Cane, and, under present conditions, the tendency is rather to extend the production of Bananas in Jamaica than to plunge too deeply into Sugar.

50. The *Bananas* exported during the year amounted to over nine million stems, valued at £1,630,000. Fortunately, no serious storm visited the Island, and this result, when the drought conditions are considered, must be regarded as remarkable.

The incidence of 'Panama Disease' shows an increase, due mainly to the discovery of neglected areas of small settlers' Bananas in the parish of St. Ann. In the main commercial areas this disease has been kept under reasonable control by the strict system of inspection and quarantine that has been maintained during the past ten years. Owing to the shortage of fruit the trade in Evaporated Bananas fell off, and only 8,000 boxes were shipped, as against 20,000 boxes in 1919.

51. The *Coconut* crop showed an increase in Exports of four million nuts over that for 1919. Copra stood steady at 700 tons. The value of Coconuts and Copra exported in 1920 was £356,000, as against £300,000 for the previous year. The health of the trees has remained good in the main Coconut areas, and it is considered that the Coconut trees in Jamaica have never been so free from dangerous diseases as at the present time. A strict system of inspection by Inspectors of Plant Diseases has assisted in securing this favourable situation.

52. The *Logwood* Industry experienced a year of great prosperity, with an Export trade to the value of £700,000.

53. *Orange Oil* sold at very high prices, and a revenue of £90,000, was received by the owners of wild oranges for this product. Citrus fruits remained an unimportant feature of the trade of the Colony. It is hoped that the trade arrangements with Canada will serve to encourage a revival in the cultivation of Oranges and Grape Fruit in the near future.

54. *Cacao* showed a reduction of about 30 per cent. in quantity over the records of 1919. Prices, however, ruled high, and the Exports during 1920 were valued at £212,000. The new Cacao nurseries established by the Department of Agriculture in Portland, St. Mary, and Hanover were the means of distributing a large number of plants, which were eagerly accepted by the public.

55. *Coffee* suffered from the unfavourable season, but with about half a crop a financial return higher than the average was received. The high-class "Blue-Mountain" Coffee sold for record prices in England, and a favourable stimulus was afforded to the resuscitation of this old staple.

56. *Cotton* was under a cloud during the year, and the small revival recorded in 1919 failed to restore this staple to the status of a minor industry.

57. *Pimento* was in demand, but the supply was only about half that exported in 1919.

58. The Industrial Chemist has carried out researches on the preparation of Oil from Pimento leaves and the manufacture of Eugenol, Iso-Eugenol, and Vanillin therefrom. The yield of oil and content of Eugenol have been found to vary considerably with the season of the year and the source of the pimento leaves. Experimental shipments of Pimento Leaf Oil—about 130 lbs. in all—have been made from the Government Laboratory, and sales have been effected in London and New York at 10. per lb. The state of the market, however, was such that it was not possible to place large forward contracts for Pimento Leaf Oil that would justify the erection of a factory to produce this oil on a large scale. The Industrial Chemist has succeeded in making Vanillin from Pimento Leaf Oil, and an organised effort is being made to explore thoroughly the possibilities of the new industry.

59. *Sisal Hemp* is now beginning to figure in the list of Exports of the Colony. Two Factories have already commenced to manufacture fibre in Clarendon. The machinery for the Government Co-operative Sisal Factory at Lizard in St. Elizabeth, with a capacity of 500 tons of fibre per annum, has been landed, and the factory is expected to operate in 1922.

60. *Jamaica Cigars* were in strong demand, and shipments to the value of £119,000 were made in 1920. This industry continues to progress, and is one of considerable promise for the future.

61. *Live Stock*—The chief event in the records of the Department of Agriculture has been the purchase of "Grove Place," a Cattle pen of 3,362 acres, situated on the Railway line in Manchester, for the purpose of a Public Stud Farm, and its equipment with an impressive array of imported sires. This enterprise has become an immediate success, and the response of the public has been quite remarkable, all classes of the community having sent cows and mares to the Stud Farm in numbers far exceeding all expectations.

The Department of Agriculture organised a co-operative importation of Zebu bulls from India, whereby 56 bulls of the Hissar, Gujerat, Ongole, Mysore (Amrit Mahal) and Montgomery (Sihawal) breeds were purchased in India through the Crown Agents, the Government of India and His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore. Eleven of these bulls were landed during the year.

It is considered that in 1920 the cattle industry made the greatest progress in its history in the importation of fresh blood of the finest breeds of cattle for Beef, Milk and Draught.

62. The establishment of Dipping Tanks has steadily progressed so that already 51 have been registered with the Department of Agriculture which supplies the Paranaph and Arsenite of Soda and the testing solutions required to keep the dipping liquid at the correct strength. But for the high cost of Cement in 1920 the Order under the new Law would have been issued whereby some 350 dipping tanks would have been constructed so as substantially to deal with the larger herds of cattle in the Colony for purposes of tick destruction.

IV.—PROGRESS IN THE INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

63. With the exception of a small amount of triangulation survey work which has within recent years been carried out by the Military Authorities for their own information, the Island has never been pro-

perly surveyed, and therefore its area cannot be said to have been accurately determined. It is however estimated to contain 2,692,480 acres, of which 2,410,429 acres have been alienated, leaving 282,051 neither alienated nor in process of alienation, about 10,000 acres of which is morass land.

64. Alienation began immediately after the Spaniards were driven out of Jamaica in 1655, for in the month of October of that year, under the Cromwellian regime, the Protector issued a Proclamation with regard to the settlement of the Island in which it was provided, inter alia, that, "Those who shall transport themselves (i.e. to Jamaica) as afore-said shall have land set forth unto them according to the proportion of 20 acres besides lakes and rivers for every male of 12 years and upwards and ten acres for every other male or female, etc., etc., etc."

The process of alienation, rather slow at first, was considerably accelerated during the earlier part of the eighteenth century, on account of the development of the sugar and rum industries, and the cultivation of coffee, with the result that, at the close of the century, the total acreage of estates had increased to an extent more than commensurate with their requirements.

65. The abolition of slavery in 1838 and the adverse fortunes of Sugar, caused abandonment of large number of properties, and in process of time these were squatted on by persons having no equitable claim to them.

66. Between the years 1867 and 1887 the Government by successive legislative enactments became trustees of all lands in the possession of persons without any legal or equitable title, and in this way upwards of 27,000 acres were recovered from 1,600 squatters. The lands so recovered are scattered all over the Island. Some of it has been restored to its rightful owners, some has been sold, and some still remains in possession of the Government.

67. During the year 1899 the Jamaica Railway was sold to the West India Improvement Co., one of the conditions of the purchase being that the Government should give them one square mile of Government land for every mile of Railroad constructed, and about the year 1894, 74,443 acres were conveyed to the Company, leaving 2,367 acres to be conveyed later on. In 1911, this large acreage passed back into the hands of the Government, who then purchased it for £18,500.

68. Within recent years, Government has granted to 297 time-expired East Indian Immigrants 3,300 acres in lieu of return passage to India, each adult receiving 10 acres, with an additional acre for each child born in the Island.

69. The scheme for the sale of Crown lands to small settlers, which was inaugurated in 1897, is still in operation, and up to the 31st Dec., 1920, 46,954 acres have been sold, and put in possession of instalment and outright purchasers. The most notable grant made during the past twelve months, is 4,182 acres in Clarendon to one purchaser. In all cases in which the full amount of purchase money has been paid the purchasers have received title from the Government.

70. There is a large number of praedial tenants on the Crown lands who pay rent at from 12 to 16 per cent nominal acre per annum.

71. While the value of private property has greatly increased during the past three years, Crown lands are still being sold at from £1 to £4 per acre, according to their situation. These prices were in existence long before the outbreak of War, the lands being for the most part in remote situations and difficult of access.

72. As regards progress in the investigation and development of the natural resources of the Island, little has been done by Government

beyond the publication of a Report by James G. Sawkins, F.G.S., on "The Geology of Jamaica" in 1869; and a Report upon "The Forests of Jamaica" by E.D.M. Hooper of the Indian Forestry Department in 1886.

73. There is no Forestry Department in this Island, and the cultivation of timber trees is an unknown industry. Almost all the timber which clothed the plains, and much of that which clothed the hill slopes up to 2,500 feet above sea level, and in some places up to 4,500 feet has been destroyed. In a few places destruction has extended to a higher elevation than 5,000 feet.

74. The history of forest denudation may be described as the history of peasant cultivation and goes back to the days of slavery, during which it was decided by an Act of the local Legislature that an acre of yams was to be grown for every ten slaves. We have it on the authority of Mr. Hooper that "It is an undoubted fact that the forests are becoming poorer and the area under hardwoods smaller, and this without the woods being utilized for their timber, or the area under cultivation or pasture, materially increased by the clearing of the land." Mr. Hooper's remarks are of the same cogency to-day as when they were written 34 years ago.

75. With reference to mining, it appears that attempts at exploiting this industry were made from the earliest times in the known history of the Island, and it might not be out of place here to state that in 1511, the King of Spain in a despatch to Diego Colon, the son of the discoverer of Jamaica, wrote as follows:

"Juan de Esquivel (the first Governor of Jamaica) and the Christians "in Xaymaca should endeavour to find gold." In 1519 the King ordered the "Controllor" of Jamaica to "report every year as to the "gold smelteries" and in 1521 the Spanish Sovereign announced that, "colonists should only pay "one-tenth instead of one-fifth of the gold "smelted for the next 8 years." In 1601 Melgarejo de Cordova, the then Governor, wrote that he was informed that "in the Bastidas "Mountains" (eastern part of the Blue Mountains) there was "a large "amount of gold."

76. At this time, it appears that the existence of copper in the Island was well known, because in 1597 Pedro de Acuna, the Governor of Cartagena, wrote to Melgarejo suggesting that he should send him some Jamaica copper ore to be tested, and in the following year the Governor of Jamaica in writing home referred to the copper which he was sending to Cartagena "for the founding of artillery." He refers to "mines situated at sea ports" and wanted the artillery forging done in Jamaica. The location of these mines appears to have been completely lost on account of the extermination of the native Indians through Spanish cruelty, an epidemic of small pox, and wholesale suicides caused by drinking cassava water.

77. Individuals and Companies have, during the past 70 years, endeavoured to emulate the efforts of the Spanish miners of the 16th century, but none of those efforts were, so far as is known, directed towards prospecting on the Crown lands, but on properties long since alienated from the Crown.

78. Although not connected with the Crown lands, it might be of some interest here to state that gold was found in the Charing Cross copper mine in Clarendon 60 years ago, and having been mistaken for pyrites, was actually thrown away. In 1857, the Wheal Copper Co. extracted from the Charing Cross mine, 208 tons of copper ore which was shipped to the English and American markets and sold for £2,817, the highest price paid being £24 15s. 0d. per ton and the lowest £9 2s. 9d.; the average figure being £13 1s. 3d. per ton.

79. Recent experiments have shown that, by means of a carbonizing process, half-formed coal called "lignite" may be used largely as a substitute for coal, and in this connection it is interesting to recall that about 35 years ago, certain deposits, declared to be "lignite" were found at Lichfield in the parish of Trelawny. The greater portion of Lichfield was in 1915 sold by Government in lots to small settlers, who had resided on the property for many years.

80. The geological formations of Jamaica being in many respects similar to those of Cuba, where iron and copper mines have long been successfully worked, there is some reason for entertaining the hope that scientific research may result in the discovery of valuable deposits in this Island.

FISHING.

81. It is to be regretted that this Industry still continues to languish notwithstanding the fact that the value of imported saltfish of all descriptions has gone up from £249,014 in 1918 to £337,323 in 1919.

82. The hope was expressed in last year's report that some effort would be made to establish a fish curing industry, but nothing has yet been done, and it is feared that without some outside subvention or encouragement, matters are likely to remain as at present. The supply of fresh fish has been up to the average, but this has little or no effect on the importation of "salt" fish, as owing to climate and the absence of refrigerating facilities the former cannot be conserved for distributing purposes and must be consumed shortly after it is landed within a restricted area.

83. Shark-fishing, on account of the value of the skin and oil and the bye-products for other purposes, has been in existence at Port Antonio for some time and is being worked successfully. This is understood to be a branch of a very large enterprise started in the U. S. of America with unlimited possibilities for the utilisation of fish "hides," fish oils, fertilisers, etc.

84. The capture of large seafish for these and other purposes promises to become, in the near future, of world-wide significance, and is expected to revolutionise the manufacture and uses of leather obtained from land animals. Our tropical seas teem with this class of fish, and it remains to be seen how far advantage will be taken of the opportunity to develop this industry.

MANUFACTURES.

85. The principal Items of our manufactures are Sugar, Rum, Copra, Banana Figs, Orange Oil, Cigars and Cigarettes, Aerated Waters, Ice and Leather.

86. *Sugar*.—Previous to the War the bounty fed sugar had crippled our industry so that we find in 1914 an output of only 20,820 hogsheads, while in 1920 there was an Output of 40,212 hogsheads, with a tendency to a still further increase. The general trend is towards centralization, resulting in large Central Factories with the most modern machinery being established in many localities and many of the smaller estates dismantling their machinery and becoming Cane Farms, to feed the Centrals. The largest of these Centrals already established is the Bernard Lodge Central in St. Catherine.

87. *Rum*.—This valuable by-product of the sugar industry has also made rapid strides since the outbreak of War, as the following figures shew. Output in 1914, 13,788 puncheons. Output in 1919, 18,415 puncheons; but owing to the desire to manufacture as much sugar as possible the output in 1920 fell to 14,439 puncheons.

88. *Copra*.—This industry has only been developed in the past few years. It is one which is largely dependent on the market value of the coconut. If the price is high in the market of the United States of America, it pays better to ship the nuts than to make Copra, certainly the large nuts, and then the small nuts are made into Copra.

89. *Banana Figs*.—This is an industry in its infancy, but considerable improvement developed in 1919 and several factories have been established.

90. *Orange Oil*.—This industry is proving of great value and is a means of getting Revenue from the Oranges which formerly went to waste.

91. *Cigars and Cigarettes*.—This is an important industry which has been greatly developed in recent years as the exports of these items indicate.

92. *Ice and Aerated Waters*.—May be regarded as manufactures for local consumption chiefly.

93. *Leather*.—There are tanneries at various centres in the Island and sole and harness leather form an item of our exports. Latterly the finer grades of leather have been manufactured to a small extent.

WATER POWER.

94. There has been little progress in the development of Water Power. The only plant of importance in the Island, which is operated by water power, is that of the West India Electric Company, Ltd., for the purpose of operating the tramways and electric lighting of Kingston and lower St. Andrew.

There is, however, a scheme under consideration for utilizing the water power from two or more rivers with a view to operate the Government Railway by electrical energy in place of the present system of steam locomotion. A careful investigation of many of the water courses in the Island has recently been carried out with this object in view, but no decision has yet been arrived at in the matter.

95. A small private plant, developing about 250 H.P. by means of dam and reservoir, has been installed at Serge Island Sugar Estate in St. Thomas. Power is transmitted some $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the Sugar Factory, Saw Mills, etc.

V. BANKS AND BANKING FACILITIES.

96. The Commercial Banks doing business in the Island are the Colonial Bank, the Bank of Nova Scotia, the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The Jamaica Head Offices are all in Kingston.

97. The Colonial Bank was established and Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836.

Subscribed Capital	..	£3,000,000
Paid up Capital	..	900,000
Reserve Fund	..	400,000

Head Office.—29 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. 3.

This Bank has sub-branches at the following town of the Island:—

Annotto Bay	Montego Bay
Falmouth	Morant Bay
Linstead	Port Antonio
Lucca	Port Maria
May Pen	Port Morant
Sav.-la-Mar	St. Ann's Bay

The Colonial Bank also has Branches in most of the other West Indian Islands, in British Guiana, and on the West Coast of Africa.

The average weekly note circulation rose from £53,261 in 1915 to £127,004 in 1920.

98. The Bank of Nova Scotia was incorporated in 1832, and holds its charter under the Canadian Banking Act. The number of branches in Jamaica is 12; they are established at Kingston, Black River, Mandeville, Montego Bay, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, St. Ann's Bay, Sav.-la-Mar, Spanish Town, Brown's Town and Linstead. The amount of notes outstanding increased from £96,814 at the end of March quarter, 1914, to £211,706 at the end of December quarter, 1919, following the increased demand for circulating media in the Colony. The notes outstanding at this date (July 31) 1921 have been reduced to £121,438. The issue of this Bank's notes is governed by the Canadian Bank Act and the amendments thereto. The notes of any Canadian Chartered Bank are a first charge on all the assets of all the Canadian Chartered Banks. A Canadian Bank may issue notes up to the amount of its paid up capital. Notes issued in excess of this figure are secured by gold deposited with the Canadian Government in a Central Gold Reserve.

On June 30, 1921, the Bank's paid up Capital was	\$9,700,000
Reserve Fund	18,000,000
Total Assets	228,428,471

99. The Royal Bank of Canada (incorporated in 1869) is, comparatively, a new comer to Jamaica.

Capital authorized	\$25,000,000
Capital paid up	20,350,000
Reserve Funds	20,789,000

This Bank has sub-branches at Cross Roads, Montego Bay, Annotto Bay, Spanish Town.

The average circulation at the end of March quarter, 1918, was £27,127, and at the end of December quarter 1920, £86,430.

100. The Canadian Bank of Commerce (Incorporated in 1867) has recently opened a Branch in Kingston.

Paid up Capital	£3,082,191
Reserve	3,082,191

101. The Government Savings Bank was started in 1870. On the commercial Banks entering the field, starting Savings Branches, and giving higher rates of interest and more facilities, the deposits in the Government Savings Bank declined. By Law 7 of 1917, the management was entrusted to a Board. New Regulations were drawn up and approved by the Governor in Privy Council on the 4th February, 1919. The renewed activities of the Bank may be said to date from the beginning of 1919, in which year the deposits increased by 71%, and during 1920 by 34%. The deposits on 31st Dec., 1920 amounted to £573,497. The policy of the Board is that the savings of the people should be used to develop the Island. The telegraphic address 'Our bank, Kingston,' sufficiently indicates the lines followed to obtain the support of the public. Under Law 7 of 1917, the funds of the Bank may be invested (1) In British and Colonial securities, (2) in loans to Agricultural Loan Societies, (3) in real securities in Jamaica, (4) on deposit in Banks (5) in any other manner authorised by the Governor in Privy Council. Funds for financing land settlement schemes, whereby Loan Banks are enabled to buy large properties, cut them up, and sell the lots to small settlers, have been provided by the Bank. Funds for making loans to Loan Banks, to be lent to members for developing their holdings, have also been provided.

102. There are 54 Branches and Postal Agencies throughout the Island, 19 of the latter having been opened in 1920. Stamp Savings Cards have induced many children and adults to open accounts. Savings Certificates are issued for 16/6, maturing to £1 in five years. Postage and registration to the Bank are free; and no revenue stamp is required on receipts. The Same rate of interest as that given by the Commercial Banks, viz., 3% per annum, compounded half yearly, is allowed on deposits. There are 42 Co-operative Loan Banks on the Register under the Industrial and Provident Societies Law (33 of 1902). The greater number of these were started early in 1913, in order to handle loans made by the Government for the resuscitation of cultivations damaged by the drought and hurricane of the previous year. Loans were also made through Loan Banks in 1916-17 and 1918, in consequence of the hurricanes of 1916 and 1917. These loans were made through the Agricultural Loan Societies Board under the provisions of Statutes giving the Banks extraordinary powers of recovering loans. Loans have also been made to the Banks under Law 6 of 1912, "A Law for the encouragement of Agricultural Loan Societies," such monies being used with their own funds for the purpose of making loans to their members for short periods on personal security, note of hand, mortgage, etc. for agricultural and industrial purposes; e.g., for the purchase of stock, cane mills, tools, and the like. These Banks have supplied a long-felt want among the small settlers.

103. The following figures, referring to the 31 Banks which obtained loans from Government funds will serve to show the extent of their operations:—

Loans made and repaid prior to 31.12.19	£17,972	8	6
Loans made on which balances amounting to			
£25,490 18s. 5d. were outstanding on 31.12.20.	81,013	18	10
	<hr/>		
	98,986	7	4

104. The Co-operative Loan Banks also collected to 31st December, 1919, a sum of nearly £24,000 share capital. It is evident, therefore, that they have come to stay; and it is expected that the more ambitious of them will extend their sphere of usefulness. The Legislative Council voted a sum of £50,000 for the purpose of making loans to the Banks for the purchase of properties for re-sale in lots to small settlers. In 1920, £38,734 was advanced to 4 Banks under this head; and during the current year this has increased to £47,116 to 7 banks. This scheme was hailed with delight; and promises to be successful.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

105. A brief summary is given below of those Laws passed during the calendar year 1920, which might be considered of general interest:

- (1.) Law 2 of 1920—Currency Note Amendment Law, 1920—Provides that Currency Notes issued under The Currency Note Laws 1904 and 1908 may be issued and re-issued in exchange for British Treasury notes and also providing that British Treasury notes to be deemed to be current coin for the purposes of the Currency Note Laws 1904 and 1908.
- (2.) Law 3 of 1920—War Emergency Laws (Continuance) Law, 1920—To continue temporarily certain emergency enactments and regulations made during the War.
- (3.) Law 7 of 1920—A Law to continue various expiring Laws

dealing with Excise Duties and to impose an Excise Duty upon Sugar manufactured in the Island.

- (4.) Law 8 of 1920—A Law to increase the Excise Duty on Cigarettes.
- (5.) Law 9 of 1920—A Law to increase temporarily Duties of Excise on Rum Duty, Beer Duty, Cigars and Pipe tobacco, Matches and King's Warehouse Fees.
- (6.) Law 10 of 1920—Prices and Profits Regulation Law, 1920. A Law to prevent profiteering.
- (7.) Law 11 of 1920—Food Control Law, 1920. Enables the Governor to appoint some person, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor, to regulate the supply and consumption of food and to encourage the production of food. It also continues certain Regulations made under the Defence of the Island Law, 1915 (Law 9 of 1915). Repeals the Food Control Law, 1919 (Law 1 of 1919.)
- (8.) Law 14 of 1920—A Law to amend the Laws relating to Praedial Larceny (Law 4 of 1909 and Law 10 of 1915). This Law gives power to an Authorised Person to call on any one to assist him in the execution of his duty. It also provides for civil actions brought against an Authorised Person for any act done in pursuance or execution or intended execution of this or any enactment.
- (9.) Law 15 of 1920—This Law amends and makes permanent the duty imposed on Entertainments by Law 14 of 1919.
- (10.) Law 17 of 1920—Tariff Amendment Law, 1920. To make provision for a Preferential Tariff in respect of goods the growth, produce or manufacture of any part of the British Empire.
- (11.) Law 18 of 1920—Local Clearing Office Law, 1920. To establish a Local Clearing Office in respect of the collection and payment of enemy debts.
- (12.) Law 28 of 1920—Foreign Banks Laws, 1920. A Law to regulate the carrying on of banking business in the colony by Aliens.
- (13.) Law 37 of 1920—Firearms (license to keep) Law, 1920. A Law to regulate the grant of Licenses to keep and use Firearms.
- (14.) Law 38 of 1920—Boy Scouts Association Law, 1920. To further and protect the activities and interests of the Boy Scouts Association.
- (15.) Law 39 of 1920—A Law to amend the Income Tax Law, 1919. (Law 24 of 1919).
- (16.) Law 40 of 1920—This Law amends the Law to provide for the payment of Estate Duty on property passing on the death of any person (Law 21 of 1916).
- (17.) Law 41 of 1920—Tick (control and eradication) Law, 1920. Provides for the control and eradication of ticks among cattle.
- (18.) Law 42 of 1920—Aliens (Expulsion) Law 1920. Provides for the expulsion of Undesirable Aliens out of the Colony.
- (19.) Law 45 of 1920—Census Law, 1920. Provides for the taking of the Census in the year, 1921.
- (20.) Law 48 of 1920—A Law in aid of the Public Health Law, 1867. This Law repeals section twenty-one of Law 6 of 1867 as amended by Law 30 of 1908 and substitutes a new section dealing with contagious or infectious diseases when they become prevalent.
- (21.) Law 5 of 1920—A Law further to amend the Income Tax laws. The amendment deals with Income Tax on Insurance Companies.

VII. EDUCATION.

ELEMENTARY.

106. During the year under review many of the schools were affected by the epidemics of Alastrim or Kaffir Pox and Measles, several being closed for some weeks by order of the Health Authorities, whilst others were seriously affected in attendance. This resulted in a slight fall in the total average attendance for the year, although the average number on the registers showed an increase of over 2,000.

107. The staff of Inspectors continued to be incomplete, with two vacancies, but the provision for nine Assistant Inspectors, five of whom were appointed during the year (1920), enabled the Department to exercise much more supervision over the schools than had been possible formerly.

108. The new system of classification and grading of schools and teachers received legislative sanction during the year with financial effect as from 1st January. This should result in great improvement in elementary education throughout the island when the rather drastic changes have had time to take full effect. At present the greatly increased importance of school garden and nature study work in correlation with other subjects is hardly appreciated by many of the teachers.

109. The vacancies on the staffs of the Training Colleges, mentioned in the last report, were filled during the year.

110. The Departmental expenditure on Education was £123,012 as compared with £93,935 during the previous year.

SECONDARY.

111. The Secondary Schools after the war-period of straitened means and weakness in staffing, received timely help in the Michaelmas Term from Government grants-in-aid. The increase in salaries made possible by the grant still leaves them below those under the Burnham Scale and the difficulty of obtaining competent masters and mistresses, though lessened, is still serious.

112. The question of making adequate provision for pensions is (necessary and the subject is) under consideration; it is anticipated also that the services in Jamaica of Teachers coming from England will be made qualifying service under the School Teachers (Superannuation) Act. 1918.

TECHNICAL.

113. The Government Technical and Continuation School, Kingston, was able, on the return from war-service of the head of the Boys' Technical Department, to resume its normal courses and a short course in Woodwork for Elementary School Teachers was held towards the end of the year. The classes for disabled men of the B.W.I. Regiment were continued and in addition a special course of vocational training for time-expiring soldiers was started. Provision was made for improvement in both staff and equipment.

114. The Manual Training (Woodwork) centres were all in operation during the year, most of them doing some very useful work.

INDUSTRIAL.

115. The Industrial Schools continue to do good work, though in some the accommodation is taxed to the utmost. The boys get useful training in Agriculture, Carpentry and Joinery, Tailoring &c. and

the girls in Domestic subjects, but the much needed improvement in equipment referred to in last year's report has not yet been effected.

116. Towards the close of the year steps were being taken for the establishment of two new Industrial Schools, one for boys and the other for girls in the country parishes.

VIII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

117. For the year 1920 the total actual rainfall for the Island was 51.10 inches, and the average may be taken as 76.26 inches; so that the deficiency shews 25.16 ins., or about 67 per cent. of the average. The total rainfall for Kingston, for the year was 9.11 inches.

TEMPERATURE.

118. The records for Kingston show that the mean temperature for the year was half a degree above the average: similar to the year 1919. The highest maximum was 95.4 degrees in July, and the lowest minimum 63.9 degrees in February.

WEATHER DISTURBANCES.

119. No hurricane passed over the Island during 1920. A small depression passed to the far west of the Island in April, occasioning a little rain. Another small depression passed between Jamaica and Cuba about the 26th May, moving from West to East, also causing precipitation. Then the U.S. Weather Bureau notified, on 28th October, indications of a weather disturbance some distance E.S.E. of Jamaica, but the depression appeared to have passed by. Rains and high winds were experienced.

HAILSTORMS.

120. Hailstorms occurred in Kingston and Newport on 5th Aug., also at Gilnock in St. Elizabeth on 9th Sept. and at Cabbage Valley on 5th Oct.

EARTHQUAKE.

121. No earthquakes of any degree of intensity were reported from any part of the Island.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS.

RAILWAY.

122. The Jamaica Government Railway traverses the Island of Jamaica by two main branches:—

(a) Kingston to Montego Bay.

(b) Spanish Town to Port Antonio.

In both cases, from the south to the north side of the Island, the line runs across the high mountains which form the backbone of the Island. In addition, there are also two minor branches running into the interior

of the Island, viz., from May Pen to Chapelton off the Montego Bay Branch; and from Bog Walk to Ewarton off the other main branch, Spanish Town to Port Antonio. The total length of the Railway track at present is 197 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The gauge is Standard, 4 feet 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The ruling gradient is 1 in 30 combined with 5 chain curves.

123. The Revenue for the year ended 31st Dec., 1920, was £404,257, and the Expenditure £393,469: no provision is made for depreciation.

124. The total goods carried during the year were 263,967 tons, as compared with 199,389 for the year ended 31st December 1914; the number of passengers carried increased from 590,050 in 1914, to 703,650 in 1920.

125. During the current year the following Locomotives and Rolling-stock which had been ordered during 1919-1920 were erected and put into service, viz:

16 Locomotives, 60 Cane Wagons, 12 Flat Waggon and 30 Covered Waggon. The balance, consisting of 30 Cane Waggon and 50 Covered Waggon, will be put into service during 1921. Three of the eight Passenger Coaches referred to in par. 131 of the last Annual General Report were constructed in the Kingston Works and put into service during this year.

126. A survey of the proposed extension of the Railway from Chapelton to Frankfield, a distance of about 9 miles, has been made; and reconnaissances of the proposed extensions from Chapelton to Falmouth and Montego Bay, and from Highgate to Gayle, have also been made.

127. On account of the excessive rise in the price of coal, and the difficulties experienced in obtaining adequate supplies, an Expert from the Westinghouse General Electric Company visited Jamaica during 1919, and he went very thoroughly into the question of Electrification of the Railway and submitted a favourable report. Since then, two English Experts arrived towards the end of the year to advise on the same project, but their reports had not been received at the time of writing.

128. Oil Fuel fittings were ordered to enable tests to be made as to the suitability of oil fuel for Jamaica Railway conditions but they had not arrived by the end of the year.

129. It was found necessary during the year to augment materially the wages of employees, and to meet this increased expenditure, it was decided to increase the rates.

130. So as to meet the growing demands of the public it will be necessary in the near future to carry out a large programme of new works, chargeable to Capital Account, and it is hoped that provision will be made for this during the coming year by raising a loan.

131. The management of the Railway is assisted by an Advisory Board of 10 members, consisting of the Director and nine others, chiefly local business men, who advise the Government when necessary in matters of policy.

SHIPPING.

132. During the year 1920, 1,307 vessels, steam and sail, of 1,778,256 tons entered at ports in the colony and 1,285 vessels, steam and sail, of 1,755,532 tons cleared at Ports in the Colony. In 1919, 1,152 vessels, steam and sail, of 1,046,961 tons entered and 1,148 of 1,037,981 tons cleared; 1920 shows therefore the following appreciable increases:—

Vessels, steam and sail—entered 155 of 731,295 tons.

Vessels, steam and sail—cleared 137 of 717,551 tons.

133. The following are the figures for the past seven years:—

1914	entered 1,434—2,164,185 tons
1915	entered 914—1,251,722 tons.
1916	entered 977—1,230,803 tons.
1917	entered 901—1,045,443. tons.
1918	entered 772—593,328 tons.
1919	entered 1,152—1,046,961 tons.
1920	entered 1,307—1,778,256 tons.
1914	cleared 1,424—2,142,663 tons.
1915	cleared 931—1,304,687 tons.
1916	cleared 948—1,208,775 tons.
1917	cleared 874—1,019,490 tons.
1918	cleared 746—583,697 tons.
1919	cleared 1,148—1,037,981 tons.
1920	cleared 1,285—1,755,532 tons.

These figures point to the fact that shipping is on the high road to recovery.

134. The following well-established Steamship Lines are now serving the Colony, viz:—The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Leyland Line, Elders and Fyffes, Harrison Line, New Zealand Shipping Company, Pickford and Black; Canadian Government Mercantile Marine and Pacific Steam Navigation Company; these are British Companies.

United Fruit Company, Atlantic Fruit Company, Clyde Steamship Company, Pacific Mail Steamship Company, Caribbean Steamship Company, Jamaica Fruit and Shipping Company, Windward Island Line, United Steamship Company, these are U.S.A. Companies.

The Royal Dutch West India Mail; A Dutch Company.

135. It will be interesting to observe that there were in 1913 the following nine Steamship Lines engaged in business with this Colony:

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, the Leyland Line, Elders and Fyffes, Harrison Line, Pickford and Black; British Companies.

Hamburg American Line, Atlas Service and Hamburg American Line (European Service); German Companies.

United Fruit Company; Atlantic Fruit Company, U.S.A. Companies.

136. In 1920 there were, as enumerated above, seventeen Steamship Lines—an increase of eight Lines, made up of four British and four Foreign.

137. A word may be said on the subject of ship-building activities in a small way. The following are the figures:—

Ships Built.

1913	1	21 tons
1914	1	62 tons
1915	1	33 tons
1916	3	110 tons
1917	Nil	
1918	2	64 tons
1919	2	355 tons
1920	2	88 tons

A growing trade, requiring additional craft around the coast of the Island and the call for vessels to go to the neighbouring Islands, accounts for the increase noted above.

ROADS.

138. The Island is intersected by a system of good water-bound macadam roads. They are divided into two classes: (a) Main Roads, of a total length of 2,226 miles, which are maintained from the General Revenue of the Colony; and (b) Parochial Roads amounting to 4,341 miles, of which 1,301 miles are suitable for motor traffic and 3,040 miles which may be described as cart or bridle roads. The latter class of roads are maintained by the Parochial Boards from funds derived from local rates.

139. During 1920-21, the main roads were maintained at an average cost of £66 per mile, but on account of the large increase in traffic generally, and more particularly to the large number of heavy mechanically propelled vehicles now operating on the roads the cost of maintenance will in future be very much greater.

140. With few exceptions, these roads were originally constructed without any proper foundation, and are therefore suitable only for light wheeled traffic, but this type of construction is totally inadequate to meet the increased traffic requirements of the present day. Many new roads are being constructed and existing roads improved, with a view to develop the industrial and natural resources of the Island. For this purpose a loan of £50,000 was raised and the expenditure up to the end of the year under review amounted to £37,920.

CANALS.

141. There are no navigable canals in the Island. There is, however, a system of canals which convey water from the Rio Cobre River to the plains of the Parish of St. Catherine for irrigation purposes. The main canal carries 18,000 cubic yards per hour and is, approximately, 6 miles long: subsidiary channels of which there is a total length of 42 miles, convey the water over an area of 50,000 acres, of which about 20,000 acres are now under irrigation.

142. In the Parish of Clarendon an irrigation scheme has recently been constructed. Water is pumped from the Cockpit River to a height of 70 feet and discharged into channels which convey the water by gravity to irrigate the various Sugar Estates. The main channel carries 5,000 cubic yards per hour, but is capable of being extended to carry 10,000 cubic yards per hour.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, TELEPHONE AND AERIAL SERVICES.

143. The Government Island Postal Telegraph System was inaugurated in 1879, with a complement of 47 offices. At the close of the Calendar year 1920 there were 927 miles of telegraph and telephone lines, with 60 and 54 telegraph and telephone Offices, respectively. Further extensions of lines and the opening of new offices have been authorised for the current year.

144. The charge at the inception of the Telegraph System was one shilling for the first 20 words, and three pence for every additional five words, addresses of sender and receiver not being included.

145. In 1911 the popular sixpenny telegram was introduced and remained effective until 1918, when, due to war conditions, the rate was increased to nine pence for the first twelve words or under, and half penny for each additional word, including the address, at which it still remains.

146. The Railway Telegraphs, in connection with which there are 38 Offices, assist considerably towards placing communication within the reach of all. These Offices work in collaboration with the Island Tele-

graph System, but are controlled by the management of the Jamaica Government Railway. The public avail themselves increasingly of this public utility as is evidenced by the following comparisons:—

147. During the year 1909-1910, with, approximately, 100 offices 112,515 messages were signalled, and in 1919-20 the number of messages had increased to 299,879, which was further increased to 332,965, during the Calendar year 1920. The receipts in 1914-15 totalled £8,255 in 1919-20 £15,020, while during the Calendar year 1920, £18,391 was collected.

148. There are two Wireless Stations in the Island, one of which is situated at Christiana, and is owned and controlled by the Royal Navy. This Station does not communicate with Merchant Shipping, but handles traffic for Trans-Atlantic points, and North America, also for British Guiana.

149. The other Wireless Station is situated in Kingston and is controlled and operated by the Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd., under Government licenses. This Station communicates with Merchant Shipping on a 600 Metre Wave. The Company is putting down a more powerful installation which, when completed, will give a greater radius of communication than obtains at present.

150 There is at present no Aerial Service in connection with this Colony.

X. PUBLIC WORKS.

151. No public works that might be considered of special interest to persons outside the Colony were carried out during the year under review.

XI. OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

152. A list of Official publications relating to Jamaica, which are likely to be of general interest, is given below:—

	Price.	Where obtainable.
Handbook of Jamaica	8s.	Edward Stanford, 12, 13 & 14 Long Acre, London, W.C.
Jamaica in 1920*	1s.	H. Sotheran & Co., Strand, London, W.C.
Annual Report of the Collector General of Internal Revenue, Customs and Excise	1s.	Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, Kingston, Jamaica.
Annual Report of the Director of Agriculture	1s.	do do

H. BRYAN,
Colonial Secretary.

11th February, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hong Kong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the islands by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1117.

CYPRUS.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1093.)



LONDON:

PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37 Peter Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; and 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh; or from EASON & SON, Limited,
40 & 41 Lower Sackville Street, Dublin.

1922

Price 1/- net.

No. 1117.

CYPRUS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR
1921.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.

The Island of Cyprus, situated in the eastern Mediterranean between $34^{\circ} 33'$ and $35^{\circ} 41'$ N. latitude and between $32^{\circ} 20'$ and $34^{\circ} 35'$ E. longitude, is about 140 miles in greatest length from east to west, and about 40 miles in greatest breadth from north to south. A narrow range of limestone mountains, with an average height of 2,000 feet, extends along the northern coast, and an extensive group of mountains, culminating in Mount Troodos, 6,406 feet above the sea, fills the south-western part of the island. Between these ranges lies the fertile Messaoria plain.

Historical.

The early history of Cyprus is obscure. It was a centre of Ægean civilization two thousand years before our era, and Greek and Phœnician colonies were established there at a very early date. In the sixth century B.C. the island was conquered by Egypt, and fifty years later was absorbed in the Persian Empire. The famous Evagoras, a native king, succeeded in the fifth century B.C. in raising Cyprus to a position of independence, but on his death it again fell to the power of Persia and in due course to Alexander the Great. At the division of Alexander's empire, Cyprus passed to Egypt, until in 58 B.C. it became a Roman province, falling, on the division of the Roman Empire, under the Byzantine emperor.

In 1184 A.D. the Governor of Cyprus, Isaac Comnenus, revolted, and maintained his independence until, in 1191, Richard Coeur de Lion of England, on his way to the Crusades, landed, and in a whirlwind campaign of a few weeks conquered the island. Richard sold it to Guy de Lusignan, the "King of Jerusalem," and the Lusignan dynasty ruled the island until A.D., 1489,

although from 1373 to 1464 the Genoese Republic exercised a suzerainty over a part of the kingdom. In 1489 Cyprus fell to the Republic of Venice, who held it until it was wrested from them by the Turks in 1571, in the sultanate of Selim II.

In 1878 the island passed under the administration of Great Britain, and, on the outbreak of war with Turkey in 1914, was annexed to the British Crown by Order in Council of the 5th November, 1914.

II.—CLIMATIC AND METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

The climate of Cyprus is, generally speaking, temperate and healthy, though the excessive heat of the plains during the summer is trying to Europeans. The heat is, however, dry, except on the coast, while the winters are cold and bracing.

The mean temperature at Nicosia in 1921 was $64^{\circ}\cdot80$ F., or $0^{\circ}\cdot85$ below the average for the last fifteen years. The mean maximum temperature during the year was $75^{\circ}\cdot9$ F., and the mean minimum $53^{\circ}\cdot7$ F. The highest shade temperature recorded in 1921 was 105° F., and the lowest 30° F., the maximum and minimum recorded during the previous fifteen years having been 110° F. and 26° F., respectively.

The average rainfall for the last ten years was 20·18 inches per annum; at Nicosia during 1921 it was 20·78 inches, while the mean for the whole island was 22·44 inches.

The only exceptional meteorological phenomena recorded during the year 1921 were a heavy fall of snow throughout the island on the 23rd and 24th of February, and a slight earthquake shock felt at Limassol at about 11.50 a.m. on the 31st of December. A series of floods during the first week in June, 1921, caused considerable damage to roads and bridges, particularly in the Limassol and Paphos districts.

The experience of the last few years would seem to indicate that the climate of Cyprus is slowly but surely changing. While the excessive heat in the plains is still prevalent during mid-summer, the winters are tending to become colder and late rains to fall during May and June, or two months after the close of the normal rainy season.

III.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Cyprus is, first and foremost, a country of agriculturists, or peasant farmers, and as such its prosperity depends almost entirely on its cereal and other crops. The success or failure of the harvest of any one year may therefore fairly be taken as the chief criterion of the well-being of the island and of its inhabitants. The harvest of 1921 was, generally speaking, satisfactory, and though the high expectations formed early in the year were not

fully realized, the eventual production was sufficient to meet local demands, and to permit of the exportation of wheat and barley without giving rise to any shortage such as was experienced during the winter of 1919-1920. The caroub crop was plentiful, but the olive crop was below the average. The short supply did not, however, cause any local inconvenience, as, owing to the large production in 1920, the stocks of olive oil which had been accumulated were sufficiently large, not only to meet the deficiency, but to permit of export.

The trade of the Colony continued to be satisfactory, though there was a decrease in the value of both imports and exports. This decrease, however, was attributable mainly to the fall in the prices of almost all commodities, and not to any marked shrinkage in the volume of trade. The return to more normal conditions which had been disturbed by war and post-war considerations made it possible to withdraw the restrictions on the exportation of certain commodities which it had been found necessary to impose. The removal of these restrictions, and the increased facilities for shipping which are now enjoyed, will, it is hoped, lead to a considerable development in the export trade of the island.

The fall in the prices of commodities was very marked in the case of cereals, and this circumstance has affected appreciably the amount recovered on account of tithe dues, which form one of the main sources of the revenue of the Colony. Fortunately, there was an expansion in other directions, but the decrease in revenue from this source necessitated the exercise of strict economy and the curtailment of expenditure on many works of importance.

There was a noticeable fall in the price of bread and other staple foodstuffs, and a satisfactory general standard of comfort was maintained.

The importation of motor cars, chiefly of American manufacture, was again a marked feature. There are now about 250 private cars in regular use in the island, practically all of which are of post-war importation. In 1918, at the time of the Armistice, there were less than a dozen. The means of communication throughout the island are good, and particular attention, so far as funds permitted, was again paid to the maintenance of roads suitable for motor traffic.

Population.

A census was taken at midnight on the 24-25th of April, 1921.

The population, as shown in the return, is 310,709, as compared with 274,180 at the census of 1911, an increase of 36,529, or 13 per cent. Of this number 61,422, or approximately one-fifth, are Mohammedans, the bulk of the remainder being Greek-Christians of the Autocephalous Church of Cyprus.

Public Health and Vital Statistics.

The Public Health in 1921 was again good, the stringent quarantine regulations which were enforced having proved effectual in preventing the introduction into the country of plague, typhus, and other virulent diseases prevalent in most neighbouring countries of the Levant and Near East. Cyprus is also free from rabies, and the regulations prohibiting the importation of dogs from any destination were strictly enforced during the year.

The prevailing diseases were, as in the previous year, those of the digestive and respiratory systems, influenza, diseases of the skin, rheumatism, enteric fever, and malaria. As in previous years, an active campaign against malaria was conducted under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. It is of interest to note that, since the inauguration of the anti-malarial campaign in 1913, over 1,000 acres of marsh land have been reclaimed, of which some 500 acres are now under cultivation.

The total number of births registered during 1921 was 8,341, being 26·6 per thousand of the population, as against 9,060 in 1920, or 28·7 per thousand.

The total number of deaths was 6,213, being 19·8 per thousand, as against 7,330 in 1920, or 23·2 per thousand. The natural increase of population was thus 2,128, as against 1,730 in the preceding year. The rate of infant mortality was 130·4 per thousand, or almost the same as in the preceding year.

There are Government-maintained or aided hospitals in the six principal towns of the island, and fourteen rural medical officers, each with his headquarters and a Government dispensary at a central station, worked among the village population.

Nearly 1,200 patients were admitted to the Central Hospital at Nicosia, and the out-patients treated at that institution numbered 8,632. Over 200 surgical operations were performed. More than 15,000 persons received relief at the rural dispensaries.

The average number of inmates in the Lunatic Asylum at Nicosia was under 100, while the number of lepers at the Leper Farm averaged about 70. The number of admissions to the Farm was again very small, and there were five deaths, all of which were advanced cases of the disease. One leper was discharged under observation. The number of inmates, at the close of the year under report, is the lowest on record. The beneficial effect of segregation is beginning to tell, and there is good prospect of stamping out the disease in Cyprus before long. b *

The number of children, at the close of the year, in the home for healthy children of lepers was eleven, all of whom remained free from any sign of the disease. One girl was discharged.

Languages.

The language of the country is a local dialect, often very corrupt, of Modern Greek. Osmanli Turkish, somewhat archaic

and free from Persian and Arabic words, is spoken by the Moslems, who, however, as a general rule, are conversant with Greek. In a less degree English and French are spoken by the more educated classes. Arabic, Egyptian, or Syrian is not generally spoken or understood.

Emigration : Immigration.

Emigration from Cyprus during the past year has been directed principally to Egypt, but has again been much restricted by the regulations controlling entry into that country, while emigration to the United States of America has practically ceased owing to the restrictions which have been imposed on immigration there while the present lack of employment continues. A large number of Cypriots who went abroad during 1919 and 1920 in search of work became destitute in foreign countries and had to be repatriated, with the result that, in addition to the check on emigration imposed by the local Government, the villagers themselves have become more wary before venturing far from their native shores.

The only immigration on a large scale has been that of 3,000 Armenian refugees from Mersina who took refuge in Cyprus in November last. These persons are self-supporting, and of industrious habits.

There are still about 500 of the Russian refugees, who were referred to in last year's Report, remaining in the island. They are at the present time lodged in the Military Camp at Polemidia, near Limassol.

All the Armenian orphans who were brought to Cyprus from Adana in 1920 under the auspices of the Committee which administered the Lord Mayor's Fund for Armenian Refugees left the island during the course of the year under review.

Labour.

Unskilled labour in Cyprus is, on the whole, plentiful except during harvest time, but skilled native labourers and artisans are difficult to obtain. Wages, which had reached a very high level at the end of 1920, fell during the spring of 1921, and remained fairly stationary for the rest of the year. The average rates paid for unskilled labour were from 2s. to 3s. per diem for males, and from 1s. to 1s. 6d. for females.

Public Works.

In addition to the usual works connected with the maintenance of Government buildings, roads, and bridges, an extensive programme of public works was carried out, though a curtailment of expenditure towards the close of the year became necessary in consequence of a decrease in the estimated revenue due to low prices realized for tithe grain. At Nicosia the five residences for Government officials, commenced during 1920, were finished,

while three more houses were constructed and a fourth commenced. A new strong-room was added to the Treasury, and certain other extensions made at that office. A new operating theatre was built at the Nicosia Central Hospital.

At Famagusta considerable alterations were effected to the Police Barracks, and the works undertaken in 1920 to improve the water supply of that town were continued. A new jetty was built at Koma-tou-Yialou, an anchorage of importance in the Karpass.

At Limassol the construction of the new hospital, which is to cost in all some £13,000, was proceeded with. It is anticipated that the hospital will be equipped and opened during the summer of 1922.

At Paphos and at Polis new Government offices were constructed and occupied. Considerable improvements were made to the water supply of Ktima (Paphos), the work being carried out under the supervision of the Public Works Department.

On Mount Troodos quarters were built for the Government clerks stationed there during the summer season, and new stables were built at the Government offices.

Considerable work was done in the way of road construction, the most important works undertaken in this connection being the road from Kythrea to Lefkoniko and the Akhna-Xylotymbo-Xylophago road, both of which were nearing completion at the end of the year under review. The completion of the former will permit of direct communication between Nicosia and the villages of the Karpass division, while the latter will shorten by about six miles the distance between Larnaca and Famagusta, between which towns there is considerable traffic.

The reconstruction of wooden bridges and the building of new bridges was carried out on as large a scale as funds permitted. The rebuilding of the old wooden Polis bridge with cross steel troughs, longitudinal girders, etc., which had been started in 1920, was completed. A large new stone bridge of nine spans of from 12 feet to 25 feet was built over the Elia River on the Morphou-Karavostassi road. The Petra Bridge, which was washed away by the heavy floods of June, 1921, was rebuilt in reinforced concrete by a bridge of five spans, three of 20 feet and two of 27 feet. This is the first reinforced concrete bridge in the island. Several other new bridges and a large number of culverts were built on the principal roads. Altogether 843½ miles of road were maintained by the Public Works Department during the year at a cost of £23,352, or approximately £27 13s. per mile.

Telephones.

The telephone lines were, as usual, maintained by the Public Works Department. In Nicosia the former single-line overhead system was replaced by a complete metallic system, part of which

is underground and part overhead. An entirely new single line was constructed between Nicosia and Larnaca, a distance of 26 miles. The total length of the telephone lines now open is 244 miles.

Irrigation.

The usual works connected with the maintenance and repair of the irrigation reservoirs and channels were carried out satisfactorily under the supervision of the Irrigation Superintendent. Unfortunately much damage to most of the works was sustained by the heavy floods which were experienced in February and December, and the repairs necessitated have entailed considerable expenditure.

The question how far the development of irrigation works in Cyprus is feasible has for some time engaged the earnest consideration of the Government, and arrangements were made in the early part of the year to secure the services of an expert to advise in the matter. Colonel W. M. Ellis, C.I.E., R.E., formerly Chief Engineer of the Madras Presidency, who was selected for this task, arrived in Cyprus in August last, since when he has been engaged in investigating the position, and it is anticipated that his report will be completed shortly.

There has been a steady development of the system of raising water from wells by means of air motors and other mechanical devices. This system is largely in vogue for the irrigation of fruit and vegetable gardens, especially such as are planted with orange trees and potatoes. This development has been most marked in the neighbourhood of Famagusta, from which port there is a rapidly increasing export trade in oranges and potatoes.

Ancient Monuments.

Cyprus is very rich in matters of archæological and antiquarian interest. Of the monuments and historic buildings still standing, the most numerous, most beautiful, and the best preserved are those of the Lusignan and Venetian eras of the thirteenth to the sixteenth century. There are also scattered throughout the island remains of temples, tombs, and cities of the classical and pre-classical periods.

The maintenance and supervision of the ancient monuments and historic buildings in Cyprus are undertaken by the Curator of Ancient Monuments, but the amount of money available for this service is unfortunately very small. The number of historic buildings, ruins, etc., now scheduled as ancient monuments is thirty-eight.

During the year under review the most important work which was undertaken was the extension of the sea wall on the eastern side of Kyrenia Castle, to protect it from encroachment by the

sea. This famous castle, which probably dates from Byzantine days, is, like many mediæval buildings, very deficient in the matter of adequate foundations, and it is to be hoped that the construction of the present apron of stone will prove effectual in preventing the sea from undermining the castle wall.

IV.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The local revenue of Cyprus collected during the calendar year 1921 amounted to £682,374, to which should be added the sum of £26,000 in respect of that portion of the Grant-in-Aid from Imperial funds brought to account during the financial period, making a total revenue from all sources of £708,374, as against £718,518 collected during 1920.

The expenditure amounted to £678,273, which, with the payment of £92,800 as the Cyprus share of the Turkish debt charge, makes a total of £771,073, as against £784,580 during 1920.

Corresponding figures of revenue and expenditure for previous years are as follows :—

Year.	Revenue.	Grant-in-aid.	Total.	Expenditure.	Turkish Debt.	Total.
1918-19	£ 610,499	£ 50,000	£ 660,499	£ 494,675	£ 92,800	£ 587,475
1919-20	602,927	50,000	652,927	485,400	92,800	578,200
1920	668,518	50,000	718,518	691,780	92,800	784,580

The principal increases of revenue which have been recorded are under the various items of Customs Receipts, due to the revision of the tariff. A very large decrease occurred under Forest Department Receipts, attributable to the decrease in extraction of timber and fuel consequent on the cessation of the supply of these commodities to His Majesty's Forces in Egypt. Railway Department Receipts suffered similarly through the cessation of this traffic; and the interest received on account of Government investments showed a decline consequent on the reduction of cash balances and the fall in the Bank rate.

Increases of expenditure occurred under Public Works in consequence of the large programme which was undertaken. There was a large decrease in the expenditure of the Forest Department following on the decrease in the quantity of timber and fuel extracted.

The collection of the taxes was again most satisfactory, and there were no arrears at the end of the year.

The total of Revenue and Expenditure from the date of the British occupation in 1878 up to the 31st of December, 1921, is as follows :—

Revenue—collected locally	£	11,444,954
Grant-in-Aid from Imperial Funds ..		1,572,085
		<hr/> £13,017,039
Expenditure—current.. ..	£	8,823,557
Turkish Debt Charge		3,956,136
		<hr/> £12,779,693
Showing a surplus of		£237,346

The gross balance of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st of December, 1921, exclusive of the Reserve Fund of £90,000, and the depreciation accounts on investments of the Reserve Fund, Savings Bank, and Note Currency Fund, amounted to £107,556, but this is subject to a charge of £69,600 on account of the share of Cyprus of the Turkish Debt Charge for the nine months ended on the 31st of December, 1921.

Currency notes of denominations of £10, £5, £1, 10s., 5s., 2s., and 1s. were again in circulation during the year. The maximum amount of the currency note issues is limited to £700,000, and the maximum value of the notes actually current at any one time was £632,169 4s. During the year the issue was much reduced, and stood at £524,122 11s. at the close of the year.

The cereal tithe assessment of 1921 was on the whole satisfactory. The wheat tithe was the third best in the last ten years, and above the average for that period. The barley tithe, however, was below the average, and not so good as in the previous year. The vetches, oats, rye, and other tithes were somewhat disappointing.

During 1921 £55,000 worth of silver coin was minted at the Imperial mint and imported, and £50,000 had been put into circulation by the 31st of December. The denominations of these coins were 18 piastres, 9 piastres, and 4½ piastres, equivalent to 2s., 1s., and 6d. respectively.

Banks.

The Imperial Ottoman Bank has branches in Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagusta, Limassol, and Paphos. The Bank of Athens has branches in Nicosia and Limassol. The Bank of Cyprus, established in 1912 under the provisions of the Ottoman Commercial Code, has its head office in Nicosia, with a branch at Limassol, and agencies at Larnaca, Famagusta, Paphos, Kyrenia, and Morphou.

A Government Savings Bank was opened, under Law 16 of 1900, on the 1st of January, 1903. Interest at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum is allowed. The number of depositors on the 31st of December, 1921, was 313. Deposits during the year amounted to £3,700 and withdrawals to £5,500 approximately; the balance in hand at the end of the year was about £18,000.

V.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

The total value of imports of merchandise during 1921 was £1,449,247, as against £2,068,756 during 1920, a decrease of £619,509. The following table shows the imports for each of the last three years under the main heads of classification :—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Food, drink, and tobacco	£ 433,275	£ 661,907	£ 363,477
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	107,620	128,651	141,577
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	984,532	1,243,851	942,935
Miscellaneous and unclassified	—	34,347	1,258
Total	£ 1,525,427	£ 2,068,756	£ 1,449,247

£63,041 of specie was also imported during the year, including £55,000 worth of silver coin imported by Government.

Rather more than 63 per cent. of imports into Cyprus during 1921 were from the United Kingdom, Egypt, and other parts of the British Empire, as against 68·9 per cent. of the imports of the previous year. Of other countries Italy came first with 6·2 per cent., Greece second with 5·0 per cent., France third with 4·7 per cent., and the United States of America fourth with 3·8 per cent.

The total value of exports from Cyprus in 1921 was £917,609, as against £1,200,449 during 1920, a decrease of £282,840. £3,258 worth of specie was also exported. The following table shows the direction of exports during the year :—

1. United Kingdom	£ 207,796
2. Egypt and other parts of the British Empire	276,925
3. France	37,414
4. Greece	18,443
5. Italy	22,651
6. Spain	82,330
7. Switzerland	22,150
8. Turkey	40,558
9. United States of America	23,579
10. Other countries	185,763
Total	£ 917,609

As against the figures for 1920 :—

	£
1. Egypt and other parts of the British Empire	434,550
2. United Kingdom	257,449
3. Greece	132,550
4. France	55,349
5. Italy	39,814
6. United States of America	36,298
7. All other countries	244,439

The excess of the value of imports over exports amounted to £531,638 during the year, as compared with £868,307 in 1920. This slight improvement is due to the removal of almost all the restrictions on exportation and to the consequent trade with neighbouring countries in live-stock and local produce, and, with increasing exportation, it is hoped that the balance will soon be restored. The difference is probably to some extent due to under-valuation of exports and, to a considerable extent, to the holding up of certain products such as cotton, owing to the temporary difficulty in finding markets. Formerly the bulk of the cotton was shipped to Syra by sailing vessels, but, owing to the depreciation of Greek credit, there is at present no market there.

The heavy importation during the last two years is to a large extent due to the fact that all merchants are now replenishing their stocks, which were practically exhausted during the War.

Trade with the United Kingdom was well maintained during the year. A noticeable feature is the increase of exports, principally caroubs, to Spain.

Shipping.

Some two hundred and fifty steamships and over eight hundred sailing vessels engaged in foreign trade called at Cyprus ports, chiefly at Famagusta, Limassol, and Larnaca, during the year, an increase of about 25 per cent. over the previous year. In the coastal trade nearly 3,000 calls were made by sailing ships working between the ports and anchorages of the island.

It is noteworthy that the number of cargo steamers which call at Cyprus is steadily increasing, while the island enjoys an excellent service of regular passenger steamers which keep it in close touch with the ports of Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor, and Europe.

The steamers of the Khedivial Mail Steamship Company, the Lloyd Triestino, the Servizi Marittimi, and the Messageries Maritimes provide an average total service of a dozen steamers a month.

Agriculture.

Cyprus is essentially an agricultural country, and the majority of the population consists of peasant proprietors farming their own lands. Farms (chiftliks) on a larger scale exist, but it is on

the peasant proprietor that the agricultural prosperity of the island mainly depends. About one-half of the total area of the island is under cultivation, and of the remainder about one-fourth is susceptible of cultivation.

The cereal harvest during 1921 was good, though it perhaps failed quite to realize the high expectations entertained of it early in the year. The wheat yield was above the average, and sufficient in quantity to permit of exportation. The barley yield was slightly below the average, while that of minor crops such as oats, rye, etc., as in preceding years, was negligible.

As was anticipated after the phenomenal season experienced in 1920, the olive crop was but meagre, but owing to the large stocks of olives and oil remaining no hardship was caused; it was, in fact, possible totally to remove the restrictions on the exportation of olive oil. The caroub crop was again plentiful, but the market was slack, and low prices prevailed.

The fruit trade with Egypt was well maintained, but here again prices suffered a considerable fall. The production of raisins was up to the average, but the market was poor, due largely to the depreciation of the Greek drachma, the bulk of the export trade in this commodity being to Greece. Approximately the same quantity of raisins was sent out of the island in 1921 as in 1920, viz., about 35,000 cwt., valued at £42,000.

The year may in general be set down as a good average year.

Agricultural Pests.

The vine disease, *peronospora viticola*, the outbreak of which in the vineyards of the Paphos district was alluded to in last year's Report, continued in that district, and also unfortunately spread over the border into the Limassol villages, despite the energetic measures taken by the Agricultural Department. Weather conditions greatly interfered with the spraying operations undertaken at the critical time, and difficulty was again experienced in inducing the vineyard owners to co-operate. The matter is being carefully watched, and further action will be taken this season to keep the pest in check.

A campaign was also conducted against the *Zyaena ampelophaga*, which attacked the vines in the Larnaca district, and some thousands of apple and plum trees at the hill villages of Galata, Kakopetria, and Prodromos, which were attacked by the Ermin moth, were sprayed under the supervision of the Department.

The potato pest, *Lita Solonella*, was again combated on the same lines as in previous years. The systematic campaign waged against this disease has borne excellent results, and the area affected by it was much reduced.

The usual awards were paid during the year for the destruction of hornets and rats, and for the collection of sparrows' eggs.

Agricultural Experiments and Education.

As in previous years the Agricultural Department has continued to import agricultural machinery for demonstration purposes, and also for resale to farmers on easy terms of payment and without interest. In addition to the ordinary importations, a special supply of new machinery and implements of the value of £2,000 was obtained from England during the closing months of the year. This consignment included tractors, ploughs, reapers, corn-dressing machines, a wine-still, vine and tree sprayers, and various improved implements of general use, for which there is considerable demand.

The small wine laboratory at Nicosia attached to the headquarters of the Agricultural Department, the establishment of which was referred to in last year's Report, rendered useful service in the way of instruction and demonstration during the year, and the course of lectures in practical wine-making given in the villages of the wine-producing districts was well attended.

The seed-testing plant added to the equipment of the Agricultural Department in April, 1920, proved its usefulness, and more than 150 samples of seed were tested for germination. It is hoped that farmers will in time come to appreciate the benefit of having their seeds tested, and thus lessen their losses from the sowing of dead seed.

The distillation of Otto of Rose is attracting considerable attention, and the cultivation of the proper rose plant for this purpose was much increased. The departmental still was used for the production of some 350 grammes of rose oil during the year, and a portion of this was sent to England for sale and commercial valuation.

Experiments were continued in the production of Perilla seed oil, the grafting of imported fruit trees, and the general improvement of local varieties of trees and plants of all kinds. Samples of ground-nuts grown locally and sent to England for analysis and commercial valuation were well reported upon.

Three native-born students were under training abroad during 1921—one in England studying dairy work and poultry-keeping; another at the Veterinary College, Cairo; and a third at Constantinople completing a veterinary course interrupted during the War.

The Agricultural School at Nicosia continued its work, and it was possible, owing to the opening of the model dairy and the wine-making laboratory and to the arrival of various new agricultural implements, to give the course a more practical character than heretofore.

Arbor Day, when the school children of village schools are encouraged to plant seedlings supplied by the Department, was again celebrated with success, and the educational work undertaken in connection with the cultivation of school gardens again bore good results during the year.

Sericulture.

Silk-worm rearing is an important industry in the island, and the white-mulberry tree is grown for the breeding of silk-worms. Nicosia, Paphos, and the Karpass are the principal centres; nearly all the silk cocoons are exported, mainly to France. During the year the Agricultural Department's sericultural stations were engaged, as in previous years, in producing eggs and rearing silk-worms for instructional purposes, and the usual inspections of the industry were carried out in the districts.

Livestock.

The improvement of the island's livestock continued to engage the earnest attention of the Government. At Athalassa, three miles from Nicosia, the Government possesses a large stock farm which is under the immediate supervision of an experienced manager who is also a member of the Cyprus Stock Committee, a body which advises the Government on all matters relating to stock-breeding. At this farm stock are raised for sale throughout the country, and, in addition, thoroughbred stallions, donkeys, bulls, and boars stand for service at nominal fees. Poultry of various kinds are bred in large numbers, and these, as well as eggs for hatching, are sold in different parts of the island. During the year the stock at Athalassa was further increased by the importation from England of two thoroughbred stallions, two bulls, twenty-four cows, one boar, four sows, and a considerable number of poultry.

During the year the following services were effected by the stud animals:—

Mares, 178; donkeys, 93; cows, 253; sows, 22.

The farm lands, amounting in all to some 1,800 acres, were under cultivation as a model farm for the production of cereals, lucerne, etc., and good crops were raised. Reafforestation on the less fertile part has been undertaken. There is a good permanent water supply.

Labour has been plentiful during the year; the reformatory, run in connection with the farm on the lines of a Borstal Institution, as described in another chapter, having made available an average of about 45 youths, of ages ranging from fourteen to eighteen, daily throughout the year.

During the year a fine stud stable was opened at Famagusta, where a thoroughbred stallion, a bull, a donkey, and a boar stand for service. Poultry-breeding has also been started at this centre.

In addition, there are stud stables at Limassol, Paphos, and Yialousa, and similar stables will be opened at Larnaca and Kyrenia as soon as the necessary animals are available.

The post of Veterinary Surgeon, which had been vacant for over four years, has now been filled. This officer reports that his inspections in various parts of the island have shown him that the

health of the animals in this country is particularly good, especially when the somewhat backward and unhygienic conditions in which they are kept in the villages are considered.

Cases of the usual indigenous contagious diseases were reported during the year, but the island has been free from other animal diseases which cause severe losses in neighbouring countries. Outbreaks of anthrax, goat and sheep pox, and one outbreak of quarter-ill occurred during the year. Over 1,500 animals were inoculated against anthrax, and the usual methods of quarantine and vaccination were employed to combat the outbreak of this and other diseases.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

Five Co-operative Credit Societies are now operating in various villages of the island, mainly in the Nicosia and Famagusta districts, and five more are registered, but have not yet found the necessary capital to start work. A thorough enquiry into the working of the societies was held during the year, and the general result was satisfactory. The principal obstacle in the way of development in this direction is lack of capital, and if funds were available many more societies would be formed, as the villagers are keenly alive to the mutual benefits to be gained from this form of co-operation. Small loans have been made from time to time by the Loans Commissioners, but the amount that can be set aside for this purpose is unfortunately very limited. An annual official audit is made of the transactions of each society, and there are signs that in the matter of accounting greater regularity and accuracy are observed.

Other Industries.

There are few industries in Cyprus at all comparable with agriculture for importance, though wine-making is a well-established industry in the Limassol and Paphos districts. The vintage of 1921 was rather below the average in quantity and of inferior quality. About 1,100,000 gallons of wine, and 50,000 gallons of spirits, principally native brandy, to a total value of approximately £100,000, were exported during the year, a falling off as compared with previous years. Other exports of island products included asbestos, terra umbra, silk, gypsum, cotton, and fruit. The making of lace at Lefkara, of a design closely related to Venetian point lace, is a thriving business, and the itinerant lace-sellers from that place have penetrated with their wares to all corners of Europe, and as far afield as the continent of America.

Land.

The tenure of land in Cyprus is governed by the Ottoman Land Law. Agricultural land in general (Arazi Mirie) is held by a title deed (Qochan), which is issued by the Land Registry Office,

the real ownership remaining with the State. It can be alienated by sale, in which case a new title deed is issued, and the transaction registered by the Land Registry Office. It is transmissible by inheritance within certain specified degrees of relationship, but cannot be transmitted by will. If it becomes vacant by failure of heirs, it escheats to the State (*mahlul*).

Buildings, trees, gardens, vineyards, and wild grafted trees which have been granted are known as *mulk* (*Arazi Memluke*), and included in this category are building sites within or near a town or village. Immovable property held under this tenure belongs in full to the owner, is alienated and inherited like movable property, and the provisions of the land code do not apply to it.

Unowned or waste land is known as *Hali* (*Arazi Mevat*). This may, with permission of the Government and on payment of certain fees representing its equivalent value, be taken up and cultivated, the ownership, as in the case of *Arazi Mirie*, remaining with the State. Land left uncultivated for certain periods can be forfeited.

The charges on *Arazi Mirie* are (i) *Verghi Kimat*, a land tax at the rate of four per thousand of the capital value, (ii) tithes of the produce of the land, and (iii) a fee on transfer by sale or inheritance.

Prices of land vary according to its adaptation to certain crops, its means of irrigation and its position in relation to towns and villages. Prices, therefore, vary from a few shillings per donum (one-third of an acre) to £30 or £40, while land in the vicinity of towns suitable for building sites may fetch over £200 a donum. The average size of a plot of land is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

During the year under review 147 parcels of *Hali* (waste) land, comprising 1,064 donums (354 acres), were granted by Government for a payment of £298, the full estimated value being at an average price of 5s. 5*cp.* per donum (16s. 7*cp.* the acre). In the same year 79 parcels of *Hali* (waste) land, comprising 686 donums (228 acres), were sold at auction, realizing £479, an average price of 13s. 8*cp.* a donum (£2 2s. the acre).

VI.—INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Forests.

Cyprus possesses valuable resources in its forests, for which, at one time, it was famous. During the Turkish administration it was practically denuded of its forests, but since the British occupation in 1878 there has been a considerable improvement, and artificial reafforestation has been carried out as far as funds permitted. During the late War the forests of Cyprus rendered great service to the Allied Armies in Egypt and Palestine in supplying them with a large proportion of their needs in the way of timber and fuel.

The year under review marked a return to normal conditions after the War period, during which the extraction of timber and firewood for military purposes had caused an abnormal exploitation of the forests. Enumeration surveys were commenced to ascertain the existing resources, and so provide a sound basis for future working and development. Despite the amount of timber extracted from the forests during the past five years the general condition of the forests was shown to be satisfactory, and there yet remains a considerable quantity of mature, and even over-mature, timber ready for cutting. Enquiries were made as to the possibility of finding foreign markets for Cyprus timber, and samples have been sent to England and elsewhere to be tested and valued. It would, however, appear that the principal importance of the forests to the island will continue to be, not their revenue-earning potentiality, but rather their effect on the climate and the rainfall and the increasing part which they play in the preservation of the water supply. This consideration has not been overlooked, and, as in preceding years, attention was paid to plantations and to reafforestation generally. The planting of the Limassol and Famagusta lakes was continued, and the reafforestation of a large area at Dikellia, near Larnaca, was proceeded with. More than 500,000 seedlings were planted out in various localities, and some twenty miles of roadside planting carried out. There was an active demand for timber from the Forest Department during the year, though foreign timber began to make its reappearance on the market.

The forest revenue collected during the year amounted to £45,000, as compared with £90,000 in the previous year. The main cause of this decrease was the cessation of the military fuel supply, while rather less timber than in the previous year was sold to the general public. A greatly increased quantity was supplied at cost price to the Public Works Department and to the Railway Department.

The number of forest fires that occurred during the year was 63, as compared with 57 in 1920 and 104 in 1919; the improvement noticed in this direction in last year's Report has thus been maintained satisfactorily. Many of these fires were of small extent and quickly extinguished. Some 21,000 pine trees were burnt, as against 30,000 in 1920, and the total damage done was estimated at £1,350.

Mining.

The indications recorded in last year's Report of increased activity and interest in the development of the island's mineral resources were again remarked during the year. The rich asbestos mines at Amiandos, on Troodos, were transferred from the local company to a new company, which has been formed under the auspices of the Anglo-French Middle East Development

Corporation, Limited, with a capital of £300,000, and plans have been drawn up for the extension of the workings of this deposit on a large scale.

The Cyprus Mines Corporation at Skouriotissa commenced to extract ore during the year, and more than 11,000 tons of cupiferous iron pyrites were won, but, owing to the difficulties of shipment and of the market, none of this ore was actually exported.

A mining lease was granted to a local prospector for the exploitation of magnesite in the Akamas Hills, and so far about 300 tons of magnesite have been extracted.

The Lymni Mining Company continued operations on their concession in the Paphos district for iron and copper pyrites.

Sixteen new licences to prospect for various minerals were granted to companies and individuals during the year.

Sponge Fishing.

The sponge fisheries in the territorial waters of Cyprus are supervised by the Government Inspector of Fisheries, who works the monopoly by sub-letting the right to fish. The slump in this industry noticed in 1920 was again observed in 1921. Only three licences were issued to fish, and the total catch was about 300 lb., valued at £210. It is a matter for regret that the Cyprus sponge fishery is at present passing through a period of depression. The sponges are of a good quality, but the Cypriot does not take kindly to the industry, and the sponge fishers from the Greek islands, who used previously to come to Cyprus, prefer to fish around the neighbouring coasts of Asia Minor.

VII.—LEGISLATURE.

Twenty-seven bills were brought before the Legislative Council during its session of 1921, all of which became laws.

The majority of these are of purely local interest, dealing with the appropriation of moneys, and with various minor amendments to existing laws. Of the remainder the most noteworthy or interesting are the following :—

Law VIII.—Makes further provision with regard to the law relating to aliens, and enacts, *inter alia*, that no alien shall hold a pilot licence in Cyprus, or shall be appointed to any office or place in the Civil Service of Cyprus.

Law XIV.—To facilitate the suppression of seditious publications, and to provide for the temporary suspension of newspapers containing seditious matter.

Law XVIII.—To facilitate the enforcement in Cyprus of Maintenance Orders made in England or Ireland and vice versa.

Law XX.—Prohibits the melting or improper use of gold and silver coins, whether of local, Imperial, or foreign currency.

Law XXV.—Provides for the reciprocal enforcement of Judgments in Cyprus and in other parts of His Majesty's dominions.

Law XXVII.—Provides for the establishment of a Clearing Office for Hungarian debts in Cyprus.

VIII.—EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Primary Education.

The school year 1921 was unmarked by any special feature, and the Education Department was not called upon to meet any problems other than those of the usual order. The schools of the Greek-Christian community continued to work under the Law of 1905. The Moslem and other denominational schools, other than Greek-Christian, were in operation under the new law enacted in 1920, and the results of the first year's working have been encouraging.

During the year under review there were 241 Moslem, 508 Greek-Christian, and 13 other denominational schools open, giving a total of 762, as against 748 during the preceding year. Nearly 44,000 scholars attended the schools, or about a thousand in excess of those that attended in 1920.

The progress of education under British administration may be gauged by a comparison of the returns for the years 1881 and 1921 :—

		<i>Schools.</i>		<i>Scholars.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>
1881	..	170	..	6,776	..	£ 3,672
1921	..	762	..	43,700	..	75,800

The average attendance in village schools was well maintained, and was up to the average of previous years.

The number of teachers enrolled for elementary education during the year was 962.

The desire of village school committees to build suitable school buildings was further demonstrated during the year, and an increasingly large number of applications for loans to be applied for this purpose was received by the Public Works Loan Commissioners, so much so that the funds available were unfortunately not sufficient to meet all demands. Particular activity in this direction is to be observed at Nicosia, where the newly-elected School Committee has shown a praiseworthy desire to improve and extend the school buildings of the island's capital.

Secondary Education.

No particular development is to be signalled under this heading during the past year. The Greek Gymnasium at Nicosia, which was partially destroyed by fire in 1920, has now been entirely rebuilt through the generosity of Mr. J. Vergopoulos, a well-known local benefactor, and plans have been drawn up for the completion of the new building outside the city walls.

Increased interest has been taken in the teaching of English, and the Larnaca School Committee have brought out from England at their own expense an English master with an Oxford degree to teach in their schools. An annual grant of £1,000 is made by Government from general revenue for the encouragement of English teaching generally.

The English School at Nicosia (undenominational), which is conducted on the lines of an English Grammar school, and the American Academy at Larnaca (attached to the Reformed Presbyterian Mission) have continued their good work during the year. A commercial school, founded at Lemythou in 1912 by Mr. D. Mitsis, a native of that village, also continued its useful work.

The total expenditure on Moslem and Greek-Christian Secondary Education amounted to about £17,000, collected mainly from grants by religious authorities and from entrance fees.

Government Examinations.

The Government examinations in English, Turkish, and Greek, and the Civil Service Qualifying Examination, were, as usual, held during the year. About 180 boys presented themselves for the examinations in English, of whom about three-quarters were successful and were awarded certificates.

Secondary and Technical Education.

The secondary schools are chiefly classical. The programme of the Moslem Idadi School is arranged to prepare boys for higher education at Constantinople, and the Greek-Christian schools prepare their pupils for the University at Athens. A large number of the pupils, however, do not proceed so far. The secondary school at Larnaca is a Commercial Lyceum, paying special attention to languages and book-keeping, and has done excellent work.

The agricultural school, which is maintained by the Agricultural Department, has continued its work during the year. Lectures on chemistry have been given for some years by the Government Analyst, the classes being attended principally by student compounders preparing for the pharmaceutical examination. Apprentices are taken by the Government Railway and in the workshops of the Public Works Department, while in the Central Prison at Nicosia boot-making, tailoring, and carpet-making are taught.

Athalassa Reformatory.

The reformatory for juvenile convicts, started in 1920 at the Government stock farm at Athalassa, is run on the lines of a Borstal Institution, and the boys, whose ages range from fourteen to eighteen, are employed on various useful duties connected with the farm. During 1921 the daily average of juvenile convicts at Athalassa was 44–45. The employments on which they were principally engaged were carpentry, the maintenance of paddock fencing, repairs to the woodwork of farm buildings, harvesting of crops, ploughing, attendance on the stud animals, and general farming. The boys have again worked well, and their general behaviour has been excellent.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

The Cyprus Government Railway consists of a line running from the Port of Famagusta, at the north-eastern end of the island, to Morphou, near its north-western extremity. It traverses the Central Messaoria plain, and passes through Nicosia, the capital. From Morphou there is an extension into the foothills of Mount Troodos to Evrykhon, a village situated in the wide and fertile Solea valley at an altitude of 1,500 feet above sea level. The total length of line open for traffic is 76 miles.

A private line working as a branch of the Government Railway runs from the Skouriotissa mines, situated in the Solea valley below Evrykhon, down to the sea at Karavostassi, south of Morphou, where the Cyprus Mines Corporation have constructed a pier for the shipment of ore; the length of this line is about five miles.

High wages and enhanced cost of materials and maintenance have again to be recorded during the year under review. The rates for passengers and goods traffic were increased by 50 per cent. as from the 1st of April, 1921, but the working expenses amounted to considerably more than the earnings, which amounted, in the gross, to £29,255, as against £34,468 during 1920, a decrease due to the cessation of the military fuel traffic to which previous reference has been made.

The working expenses amounted to £36,633, showing a deficit on the year of £7,378. The price of coal was appreciably lower during the last half of the year, and there is some prospect of increased traffic being secured if the Cyprus Mines Corporation commence to ship ore from Famagusta, as has been proposed. It may then be possible to make the railway pay as a commercial undertaking.

The embankments and ballast of the permanent way suffered heavily from washouts, due to the heavy rains running down the torrential streams after a prolonged period of drought, but no serious accident occurred, and no permanent structure was damaged.

Roads.

Cyprus is to be congratulated on the excellent roads which it possesses. Before the British occupation in 1878 there was only one road along which a carriage could be taken, namely, that connecting Nicosia and Larnaca, and this was neither metalled nor kept in proper repair. Now over 840 miles of good main and secondary roads are open, and these were maintained in 1921 at a cost of £23,000, or £27 per mile, as against £30 per mile in 1920. In view of the increase in motor-car traffic, caution signals and speed-limit posts were placed at dangerous points and at the entrances of towns and villages on the principal roads.

During the year sixty miles of minor and village roads were constructed, and forty-five miles surfaced with foundation metal or paved.

Motor-car transport is now possible between all the towns and principal villages.

Postal.

Foreign Mails.—There is a regular subsidized mail service between Cyprus and Egypt. Under their contract with the Government, renewed for a further period of five years as from the 1st of January, 1921, the Khedivial Steamship Company maintain sailings three times a month between Alexandria and Port Said and the ports of Famagusta, Larnaca, and Limassol. A sea post office works on board the mail steamer, greatly expediting the sorting and delivery of the incoming mails. During the year the Post Office received 4,252 inward mail-bags and despatched 750 outward mail-bags, an increase of 874 and 23 bags respectively, as compared with the previous year.

Mails for the Syrian Coast, Smyrna, and Constantinople were despatched and received regularly at fortnightly intervals by the steamers of the Lloyd-Triestino Steamship Company; 125 bags and 42 packets were despatched and 138 bags received.

Internal Posts.—The daily motor mail services carried out under contract between the various towns of the island were efficiently performed during the year, and the branch post sections to the villages were well maintained. Improvements and extensions were effected where possible, and much was again done to modernize the postal methods in vogue and to complete the reorganization of the Postal Department. The estimated number of miles travelled in the conveyance of mails for the year was 322,000, as against 314,000 miles in the preceding year.

Fiscal Changes.—The increased rates of foreign postage, in accordance with the decisions of the Madrid Postal Conference, were brought into effect locally as from the 1st of December, 1921. The Imperial rate of postage on letters to the United Kingdom and to all British possessions was increased from the 1st of June. A general revision and increase in the rates upon parcels

was effected, and a fee levied to cover the examination of parcels received by post from abroad. A telegraphic money order service between Cyprus and the United Kingdom was arranged and brought into operation.

Statistics.—The total number of articles dealt with by the local Post Office amounted to 2,849,382, a decrease of 93,848 as compared with 1920; 1,491,487 articles were posted in the island, a decrease of 16,838 in posting, and 229,334 articles were received from abroad, a decrease of 77,010. The total correspondence posted for local delivery shows a decrease of 54,853 items, or 6 per cent. as compared with 1920, while that posted for abroad shows an increase of 44,486 items. The large decrease in the number of locally posted letters and postcards may be attributed to depression in local trade experienced during part of the year under review. On the other hand, the increase in the number of letters posted for abroad was due to the reopening of trade relations with Central Europe. Correspondence received from abroad shows a net decrease of 68,507 articles, or 8 per cent. when compared with the figures for 1920, due, in some measure, to the general increase of postage rates in other countries brought into effect during the year in accordance with the decisions arrived at by the Madrid Conference.

Parcels.—The total number of parcels handled was 63,474, a decrease of 14,974 on the previous year. Parcels posted for delivery in the island showed a decrease of 6,449, but those posted for overseas numbered 4,641, or practically the same number as in 1920. This was very satisfactory in view of the prevailing trade conditions in the island, and of the general increase in all parcel post rates for abroad. The number of parcels received from overseas totalled 37,056, a decrease of 8,503 as compared with the previous year, but an increase as compared with the number received in preceding years. Consequent on the reopening of the Central European markets, the parcels received from other countries show a slight increase of 1,273 as compared with 1920. The direct regular parcel mail from France was suspended in April. A "Duty Collection Fee" of 2 *cp.* per parcel was imposed as from the 7th February upon all parcels from abroad upon which Customs Duties were payable. The revenue derived from this source to the end of the year was £289 16s. 2*cp.*

Stamps.—Postage stamps and stamped stationery sold during the year amounted to £12,883, an increase of £1,926 on the last financial year. This increase is mainly due to the increased postage and parcel post rates. Stamps sold to philatelists during 1921 amounted to £205, an increase of £73 as compared with the last financial year. The increased demand was largely due to the issue of four denominations of stamps with a new water-mark. Revenue stamps to the value of £7,955 were sold, a slight decrease of £375 as compared with 1920-21.

Six district post offices, six sub-offices (an increase of two), and one branch office, as well as 294 postal agencies were open

during the year, and postal and money order facilities were extended to six additional main village centres.

Telegraphs.—The Eastern Telegraph Company maintains a telegraph cable between Larnaca and Alexandria, and land telegraphs between the six principal towns of the island. During the summer season Platres and Mount Troodos are connected with the system. The only Government telegraph is a line along the railway, from Famagusta to Morphou and Evrykhou.

Telephones.—There are small telephone exchanges, connecting the various Government offices and the residences of certain Government officials, at Nicosia, Famagusta, Larnaca, and, during the summer season, at Troodos. Trunk lines connect Troodos with various stations on the railway, and through the central exchange at Nicosia with Famagusta and Larnaca. Lines have also been added connecting Famagusta with Cape Andrea and Cape Greco. The extension of the system of trunk lines from Nicosia to Larnaca, a distance of 26 miles, was carried out during the year. Telephones have assumed an importance in the conduct of Government business, but it has not yet been practicable to establish a system for the use of the general public.

External Communications.—In addition to the Khedivial Steamship Company, which, as above mentioned, maintains a service of mail steamers under contract with the Government between Cyprus and Egypt, the Lloyd Triestino Company maintains a service of passenger steamers which visit Larnaca and Limassol about four times a month on an itinerary which includes Egypt, the Syrian Coast, Cyprus, Constantinople, the Piraeus, Venice, and Trieste. Steamers of the Servizi Marittimi visit Cyprus two or three times monthly on an itinerary similar to that followed by the Lloyd Triestino vessels. Cargo steamers of the Prince Line are occasional visitors, plying with cargo from Egypt and Syria to Cyprus. Vessels of the Messageries Maritimes also call at Cyprus ports at infrequent intervals, as also cargo steamers of the Affreteurs Réunis.

Communication with abroad either by aeroplane or wireless telegraphy has not yet been established.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hong Kong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.



COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1118.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For report for 1920 see No. 1097.)



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WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.*

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.†

The Territory of Weihaiwei is situated on the North-eastern coast of the Shantung Peninsula, in latitude 37.30 North, longitude 122.10 East, and, previous to its lease to Great Britain, formed a part of the Chinese Province of Shantung. The total area is 288 square miles and it comprises a belt of land on the mainland, 10 miles wide with a coast line of 72 miles, containing the small town of Port Edward, which is the only port and the seat of Government, and some 320 villages, of which four attain to the dignity of small market towns, together with the small Island of Liukung, on which is situated the Royal Naval Dockyard.

2. The Island of Liukung is formed by a backbone of hills rising to 500 ft. The mainland of the Territory—apart from plains of varying depth, fringed either with “salt pans” or sand-dunes along the greater part of the coast—consists of ranges of rocky hills rising to 1,500 ft. in height, intersected by narrow valleys and river beds. The hills, which are terraced for cultivation as far as possible, are otherwise mainly barren rock and sparse grass lands, or are planted with dwarf pine, scrub oak (the food of the Shantung silk worm), or, near Port Edward, with Japanese firs. The valleys are mostly undulating country much broken by gullies and mountain river beds; the streams are all torrential and do great damage to the valleys and coastal plains with sand and debris from the hills. During three-quarters of the year the stream beds are either dry, or, in a few cases, contain a slender streak of water.

3. The native population, which, according to the census taken this year, numbered 154,416, consists mainly of the orderly, hard working, conservative, independent peasantry of the Shantung Peninsula; there are also a large number of fishermen and a fairly progressive and increasing mercantile community, almost all natives of the Territory and mostly resident in Port Edward. The foreign population which is almost entirely British at all seasons of the year, consisted at the same census of 246 persons, including the personnel of the Royal Naval Dockyard and

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914 [Cd. 7622–36].

† For full and interesting particulars regarding the geography, history and people of Weihaiwei, see “Lion and Dragon in Northern China” by R. F. Johnston, C.B.E. (formerly Senior District Officer, Weihaiwei).

a detachment of the 2/55th Cokes' Rifles (F.F.). This population is swelled in the summer by a large influx of visitors, which, during the year under review, reached the record figure of 580 adults with 76 children. With a few exceptions the European population is confined to the Island of Liukung and the near neighbourhood of Port Edward, and resides in foreign style houses and bungalows and in hotels, of which there are four.

4. Port Edward is situated on the Bay of Weihaiwei, which is 6 miles broad and from 3 to 4 miles wide. Across the mouth of the Bay lies the Island of Liukung, leaving two entrances $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile wide respectively, which are lit by two lighthouses and give easy access to one of the best harbours on the coast of China, and one which affords excellent anchorage for vessels of all sizes. It may be interesting to note that Port Edward lies, as the crow flies, approximately 40 miles East of the Chinese (Treaty) port of Chefoo and 140 miles North-east of the ex-German port of Tsingtao.

5. The Territory was leased to Great Britain by China under a Convention signed at Peking on 1st July, 1898. During 1898 and 1899 its administration was conducted by the Admiralty and was then virtually confined to the Island of Liukung and the part of the mainland which is now Port Edward. In 1900 the War Office assumed the administration, which in 1901 passed in turn to the Colonial Office.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

6. *Sir J. H. Stewart Lockhart*.—The most noteworthy event of the year was the retirement in April of the Commissioner, Sir. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, K.C.M.G., LL.D. His departure was universally regretted by the inhabitants, both foreign and Chinese, and his popularity with all classes of the Chinese population, which was evidenced by the erection of two "Pei" (commemorative tablets) in his honour and the presentation of numerous addresses and scrolls, two "myriad name" umbrellas, one dress of "myriad name robes" and a bowl of pure water (the symbol of purity of administration), afforded a remarkable testimony to the success of British administration at Weihaiwei, at any rate in the estimation of the vast majority of those governed.

7. *Survey of Period of His Administration*.—Sir James (then Mr.) Lockhart assumed the administration of the Government on 3rd May, 1902, and except for two periods of leave, in 1909 and 1918, and short absences from the Territory, was continuously in charge for very nearly 19 years. It will therefore perhaps be interesting, and not inopportune, to review shortly the history of Weihaiwei, which is mainly that of a one-man administration, and to contrast its present comparative prosperity with the gloomy forecasts of competent observers previous to 1902.

8. The earliest report on the Territory was made in June, 1900. Weihaiwei was described as "a colder Aden," "barren and treeless," with the "soil everywhere full of sand," and

containing no cart roads but only mule tracks. It was reported that there was only one well-to-do family in the Territory, and that its property was mostly outside the boundary; that the population, estimated at 80,000, was over large; that the people were too poor to consume wine or spirits; that there were no exports except salt fish to Formosa, that there were no imports except sugar, tobacco, paper and timber, and that "beyond this there is no trade and no prospect of any." The possible revenue was estimated at £1,500 (say \$15,000) from land tax in ordinary years and at £500 from other sources.

9. In 1902 a further report stated that there was little reason to modify the impressions formed in 1900 and which are summarised in paragraph 8 above. During the interval the construction of 23 miles of mud roads had improved or supplemented the mule tracks at a total cost of \$39,000. It was estimated that no more than \$2,000 would be required for upkeep, as the people were "too poor to use carts." The opinion formed in 1900 as to the maximum possibilities of trade and revenue was reasserted, and it was stated that it was impossible to raise further revenue without undue harshness and at the certain cost of creating serious discontent and disturbances. Nor was any possibility held out of any rise in the price of land except in the neighbourhood of Port Edward. It should be mentioned that in 1900, the total revenue amounted to \$4,077, and in 1901, to \$21,188 with an expenditure of \$126,862. The total volume of export trade was valued at \$60,000; no values are given for import trade, but it appears to have been about \$500,000. All trade was carried in junks.

10. Such were the prospects of the Territory when Sir James Lockhart assumed charge in 1902, and moreover it possessed two indirect advantages to revenue, which were reduced and disappeared respectively later; it was the summer headquarters of a bigger China Fleet than in later years, and it was the headquarters of the Chinese Regiment, which ceased to exist in 1906. For the most part the contrast between the present and those "prospects" is shown in other sections of this report. It is sufficient in this summary to append a Table (Appendix I) showing Revenue, Expenditure and Grant-in-Aid from 1903-04 to 1916-17 (the last five years are shown in Section III) and to state the following facts. The hills on the Island of Liukung, where in 1902 "the only trees were flag posts," and in the neighbourhood of Port Edward are mostly covered with firs. The value of land in the Territory generally has risen 2-300 per cent., while in Port Edward land, which in 1903 was sold to Europeans at an average of \$90 a "mou" (£54 an acre) and in 1912 "sold for as much as \$240 an acre" is now assessed for taxation purposes at \$250 to \$800 a "mou" (£150 to £480 an acre) and higher prices, even among Chinese, are not uncommon. There are no actual beggars; the Chinese mercantile community is prosperous; there are many well-to-do landowners and merchants. Carts are first mentioned in 1909, when they had been known only

a few years ; 2,110 cart licences and 61 carriage licences were taken out during the current year as against 1,692 and 38 respectively in 1920.

11. *Changes of Staff*.—Sir James Lockhart left the Territory in H. M. Ship "Cairo," a passage in which had been placed at his disposal by Admiral Sir. A. L. Duff, the Commander-in-Chief, China Station, on 23rd April, and I assumed the administration of the Government on that date. Mr. Hardy Jowett, Junior District Officer became Acting Senior District Officer, and on 11th June, Mr. S. L. Burdett, M.C., of His Majesty's Consular Service in China, temporarily took over the duties of Junior District Officer. Upon his departure at the end of November, his duties were taken over by Captain W. E. Godwin, commanding the detachment of 2/55th Cokes' Rifles (F.F.), stationed at Port Edward, in addition to his military duties. Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Judge of the High Court, proceeded on leave of absence in April. The addition to the staff of another Inspector of Police, Mr. A. G. Gunn, on 1st April, enabled the Inspector detailed for work in the Financial Assistant's Office to confine himself to those duties, which are ample, and also made possible better supervision of police, traffic, shipping and lighting of craft in harbour, which is reflected in the increase of certain classes of criminal convictions (see para. 15) and has resulted in marked improvement.

12. *Visit of the Governor of Hongkong*.—A visit was paid to the Territory by His Excellency Sir R. E. Stubbs, Governor of Hongkong.

13. *Naval*.—(a) Weihaiwei was fortunate in enjoying a longer visit than usual from His Majesty's Fleet during the summer, as it was the headquarters of the Fleet almost continuously from 15th May, when Vice-Admiral (now Admiral) Sir A. L. Duff, K.C.B., arrived in His Majesty's Ship "Alacrity," until the end of September. One or more vessels of the China Fleet were here continuously from 19th April, when His Majesty's Ship "Colombo" arrived, until 2nd November, when His Majesty's Ship "Carlisle" left. The importance, both socially and commercially, of visits of His Majesty's Ships requires no emphasis.

The behaviour of the men of the Fleet was, as usual, excellent. Only one single case occurred of exuberant interference with any native and this was dealt with at once by the man's ship's company. It is a record of which any Fleet may be proud.

(b) The Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet in the Far East, Admiral Strauss, visited Weihaiwei in his flagship United States Ship "Huron," on 19th and 20th August. The tedium of the winter months was relieved by a visit of the United States Ship "New Orleans" (Captain Owens) from 18th to 23rd December.

14. *Military*.—The detachment of the 2/55th Cokes' Rifles (F.F.) under Captain W. J. Best stationed at Port Edward rejoined its battalion in North China on 20th June. It was relieved on 2nd October by a further detachment of the same regiment

under Captain W. E. Godwin. Each detachment has maintained the reputation for excellent behaviour on the part of Indian troops at Weihaiwei set up by 1/18th Infantry. The presence of the detachment has without doubt contributed to the perfect quiet of the Territory during the year. Its temporary absence may have given cause to the boldness of the band of robbers who sheltered near Port Edward as mentioned in the next paragraph.

15. *Police*.—Considerable improvement has been noticeable in the general smartness and efficiency of the police during the year. This has been due to the fact that better supervision has been possible, as stated in paragraph 11 above. It is axiomatic that the greater the attention given to and interest shewn in Chinese Police, *et hoc genus omne*, the greater the certain result; the converse is equally an axiom. Weekly inspections of the Port Edward police are now held by the Senior District Officer and monthly inspections by myself. Mr. Whittaker, the senior Inspector of Police, has been placed in direct charge. With an Inspector stationed in the Territory at Liulintzū—as was the case from February, 1912, till March, 1916, and as is again contemplated—the possibility of unfortunate incidents, such as that which resulted during the year in the dismissal and imprisonment of a senior sergeant and detective for withholding from Government the better part of opium seized in the execution of their duty, will be considerably reduced. Without the closest supervision, it is inevitable that native police in responsible positions should be very prone to succumb to any considerable temptation where gain and duty are opposing factors. The remedy is supervision, or rather the creation of healthy public opinion through fear of detection.

In contrast to this one unfortunate incident, excellent work was done by the police in the Territory, and especially by Detective Wang Lien-chih, in bringing to justice a gang of armed burglars who were responsible for almost all the crimes of this nature committed in the Territory during the year. They also discovered that during the summer a gang of “Hung Hu Tzū” (bandits) from outside British territory had set up their headquarters in the immediate neighbourhood of Port Edward. The premises were promptly raided and a number of the gang arrested. Unfortunately the leader and another member escaped, and in their flight are believed to have been responsible for the death by shooting of one man and the wounding of another. Nothing further has been heard of them. The Port Edward police were responsible for the smart capture of a man who had strangled a “demi-mondaine” in Port Edward. On trial the man was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment.

The annual police musketry practice was carried out on the Naval Range on the Island. The results were so good that it has been necessary to revise the standard required to qualify as a “marksman,” which was established by Captain (now Major) Binny, when acting as Junior District Officer, in 1919. In spite

of the higher standard required, 46 and 55 qualified as " marksmen " and " first class shots " respectively, as against 39 and 37 in 1919, and 31 and 26 in 1920.

16. *Gaol*.—There are two gaols in the Territory, one on the Island with accommodation for 70 prisoners and a staff of one head warder and five warders, and a smaller gaol at Port Edward with accommodation for 30 prisoners and a staff of two warders. It had been the practice latterly to use the Port Edward gaol as a lock-up only. This year a few short sentence prisoners have been retained in this gaol in order to provide labour for Public Works and other useful purposes, and the experiment has borne good results.

17. *Criminal Cases*.—The figures for 1920 and 1921 are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Criminal Cases.</i>		<i>Suicides.</i>
1920	.. ..	368	.. ..	76
1921	.. ..	479	.. ..	72

The large increase in the number of cases does not seem to indicate any increase in crime but merely greater vigilance on the part of the police, induced by the better supervision referred to in paragraphs 11 and 15. For instance, Breach of Gambling Regulations accounts for 21, Trafficking in Women, 10, Breach of Harbour Regulations, 17, Breach of Duty, 19, Breach of Sanitary Regulations, 13, Breach of Traffic Regulations, 9, and Breach of Sampan (native boat) Regulations, 10, or a total of 99. Thefts and burglaries decreased by 20, and the only serious crimes have been those alluded to in paragraph 15. The Territory has been quiet and law-abiding, more especially since the rounding-up of the two gangs mentioned in the same paragraph.

Eight cases were tried by the High Court. One, for murder, already alluded to sufficiently in paragraph 15, was tried by His Honour Peter Grain, Assistant Judge of His Majesty's Supreme Court for China, sitting as Judge " ad hoc " of the High Court. Of the remaining 7 cases, one was tried by Sir James H. Stewart Lockhart and 6 by myself, in each case sitting as Judge of the High Court. None requires special comment.

18. *Civil Cases*.—There was a further reduction in the number of civil cases during 1921 of nearly 40 per cent. on the already low figures of last year : 109 cases as against 142 in 1920 and 397 in 1916. It would be pleasing to believe that the continued reduction is due to a less litigious spirit, to greater satisfaction and harmony among the people in the Territory or even to the repeated exhortations to District and Village Headmen to exert their influence and " speak peace " (*anglice*, settle out of Court). The Acting Senior District Officer is of opinion that this last is a principal cause of the diminution, especially as 30 per cent. of cases actually brought into Court were withdrawn and arbitrary and frivolous suits were virtually absent. I am inclined to fear, however, from my own experience as Magistrate that withdrawals

to arbitrate are apt to indicate lack of confidence in the Magistrate's all wisdom, and that failure to litigate denotes the same doubting spirit. Unquestionably one great factor in the reduced number of cases is the inaccessibility of the Port Edward Court as compared with Wench'uant'ang. Whether more arbitrations or less satisfactory causes are the real reason will be proved upon the contemplated reopening in the near future of Wench'uant'ang. Arbitration is of course the best of all settlements. No bitterness is engendered, since "face" is not "lost," the results are often more lasting, and a greater approximation is always possible to those underlying causes of all Chinese lawsuits which are never those which are apparent on the face of the petition.

There were no civil suits which require notice, although their settlement often called for Solomonian insight, and no rehearings by the High Court—as compared with three in 1920. The "village lands" disputes, which were a feature last year, as the inevitable result of the Government Waste Lands Ordinance, 1919, ceased to occupy either Court.

19. *Street Lighting*.—There is no attempt at street lighting in the Territory outside the Island of Liukung and the Port Edward area. In these two areas the streets are lit with 10 and 14 incandescent oil lamps respectively and a number of oil lamps. By a rearrangement of the former in Port Edward and the addition of a few oil lamps, it was found possible to extend the lighting East and West in satisfaction of the legitimate claims of householders living on the outskirts of Port Edward and paying equal rates. A similar adjustment will be made on the Island in 1922.

19a. *Fire Brigade*.—Only one fire occurred during the period under review in Port Edward. The Fire Brigade, which held regular practices and of which the record muster numbered 129, is composed principally of volunteers from the various Chinese business houses and shops, and worked well. The "Valiant" Fire Engine which arrived in 1920 has been very satisfactory.

20. *Lighting of the Harbour*.—As mentioned in paragraph 4, the entrances to the Bay of Weihaiwei are efficiently lit by two lighthouses, which were established prior to British occupation by the Chinese Maritime Customs with Chinese personnel, and which are maintained by this Government, under the supervision of the Engineer-in-charge of the Royal Naval Dockyard, Engineer-Commander Sands, Royal Navy. As usual, their working has been faultless and any surprise visit results in unflinching discovery of spotless cleanliness, which affords an object lesson of what Chinese can maintain under foreign supervision.

21. *Boy Scouts*.—The 1st North China Troop of Boy Scouts, which is the oldest troop in North China, and was first mentioned in the Annual Report of this Territory in 1909 and was again mentioned in 1911, has been revived at Weihaiwei School, through the very praiseworthy energy of two of the teaching staff, and together with its auxiliary pack of Wolf Cubs is keen, smart and efficient.

III. FINANCE.

22. The financial year in this Territory ends on March 31st, and it is therefore only possible to give at the time of writing this Report complete returns of Revenue and Expenditure up till 31st December, 1921 :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Grant-in-Aid.</i> (showing sterling, and dollar.)	
	\$	\$	\$	£
1917-18 ..	128,999	150,234	4,121	650
1918-19 ..	134,543	162,292	23,610	4,000
1919-20 ..	161,726	206,431	31,228	7,900
1920-21 ..	164,973*	235,445*	129,596	20,000
1920 (1st April to 31st December)	147,182	166,983		
1921 (1st April to 31st December)	167,570*	203,903*	43,484	5,800*

23. The estimated revenue and expenditure for the financial year were \$171,480 and \$256,782. There is every prospect therefore that the estimated revenue, which was a record for the Territory, will be exceeded considerably, and also that savings will be effected in expenditure, owing chiefly to a decision to modify the scheme of water supply for the Island of Liukung at an estimated cost of \$7,000, instead of \$20,000 inserted in the Estimates.

24. Two new items of taxation were introduced during the year ; Land Tax at the rate of one-half of one per cent. on the assessed value of land in Port Edward for Chinese as well as foreigners, who alone had paid this tax in previous years, and Stamp Tax. The former Tax, from which certain classes of land were exempted in order that no hardship might be inflicted, resulted in an increase in revenue of \$3,400. Stamp Tax, which is levied under the Stamp Tax Ordinance, 1921, was estimated to bring in \$5,000 ; up till 31st December the revenue derived from this source amounted only to \$2,696, which is accounted for by extensive evasion which will be inevitable and is customary until the Chinese realise that a law is not " empty words."

25. The financial position on the whole may be considered satisfactory. Apart from the sum of approximately \$8,000 derived from non-recurrent sources, the sources of revenue during the year were healthy and are expected to give increased returns. Non-recurrent expenditure including the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme, which will be completed next June, accounted for \$45,703 out of the total estimate of \$256,782, which also made

* Revenue includes \$10,509 and \$11,031 in 1920 and 1921 respectively on account of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme (see Section X), and expenditure \$3,973 and \$38,340 in 1920 and 1921 respectively on account of the same scheme. The total Grant-in-Aid was £8,000, of which £2,200 remained unexpended with the Crown Agents on 31st December.

provision for increased salaries to meet the higher cost of living and an adequate staff. The effect of the higher cost of living and the war bonus, which has hitherto been granted to meet this cost, is first shown in the increased expenditure in 1919-20. A number of non-recurrent and other items of expenditure however, as will be clear from other sections of this Report, must still be incurred and total independence of a Grant-in-Aid cannot be expected in the near future.

IV. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

26. The boycott of Japanese trade referred to in the last two Annual Reports continued with unabated vigour up till December last, with loss to the trade of the Territory and none to that of Japan. Since 1907, at any rate, salt has formed one of the largest exports, or rather re-exports, of the Territory and Japan is a good and increasing potential market. The remaining markets are Vladivostok and Hongkong, which were bad during 1921 resulting in a heavy decrease in both salt imports and exports. With the lifting of the boycott, salt began to move and export prospects are better. It seems probable, however, that imports will decline in future and that exports will be confined largely to Territory salt, the potentialities of which are referred to in paragraph 37 below.

27. Trade on the whole however was good, the markets for ground-nuts and ground-nut oil, which are the principal exports of the Territory, being brisk. As these exports are paid for in kind rather than cash, the result was a largely increased import of rice, sugar, cotton yarn, tobacco, piece goods, timber and kerosine oil, part of which was absorbed and part of which was re-exported in junks to pay in kind for the imports by junk. Another factor in the increased imports was the recovery of the Territory from the famine of 1919-20.

28. The total value of trade for the year amounted to the record figure of \$10,891,823, or a net increase over the previous year of \$3,423,650 or approximately 46 per cent. At the same time the total number of "packages" of all kinds, imported and exported, decreased from 1,585,101 in 1920 to 1,411,571 in 1921. [See Table : "Total Volume and Value of Trade." (Appendix II)]. This contradiction is accounted for by the fact that packages of smaller value imported and exported by junk decreased by over 200,000 packages, while the number of packages of more valuable cargo carried by steamers both ways showed an increase. The number of packages except in regard to the same class of goods is a misleading index of trade but gives a partial indication to shipping dues, which are not levied "ad valorem" but per package of goods. The increased value of trade unfortunately does not therefore denote a corresponding increase in revenue.

29. *Exports.*—The principal exports of the Territory are salt, fish (salt and dried), and ground-nuts and ground-nut oil. In spite of a decrease in value of salt and fish exported of \$550,141 and \$49,994 respectively, the total value of exports amounted to \$5,261,391 as against \$2,926,622 in 1920, or an increase of

CORRIGENDA.

Paragraph 28—for “\$10,891,823” read “\$11,209,941.”
for “\$3,423,650” read “\$3,741,768.”

Paragraph 33—for “\$5,630,432” read “\$5,948,548.”

Paragraph 35— <i>add</i>	Ground-nut Oil, 1920	...	\$55,560
	1921	...	\$353,465
	Increase 1921	...	<u>\$297,905.”</u>

APPENDIX V.

Ground-nut Oil—for “\$35,346” read “\$353,465.”

APPENDIX II.

IMPORTS BY JUNK, 1921,

for “\$2,235,110” read “\$2,553,228.”

Total Imports—for “\$5,630,432” read “\$5,948,548.”

Total Trade—for “\$10,891,823” read “\$11,209,941.”

Net increase for 1921—for “\$3,423,649” read “\$3,741,767.”

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This re-export of sugar, which is imported chiefly from Hong-kong, was explained in paragraph 27. The decrease exports of fish (both by steamer and junk) are due to smaller catches, although the price of fish rose.

provision for increased salaries to meet the higher cost of living and an adequate staff. The effect of the higher cost of living and the war bonus, which has hitherto been granted to meet this cost, is first shown in the increased expenditure in 1919-20. A number of non-recurrent and other items of expenditure however, as will be seen, are still to be incurred and in the future.

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29. *Exports*.—The principal exports of the Territory are salt, fish (salt and dried), and ground-nuts and ground-nut oil. In spite of a decrease in value of salt and fish exported of \$550,141 and \$49,994 respectively, the total value of exports amounted to \$5,261,391 as against \$2,926,622 in 1920, or an increase of nearly 80 per cent. This is largely accounted for by the good ground-nut market which resulted in an increased export (by value) of ground-nuts, ground-nut kernels and ground-nut oil over 1920 of \$1,137,983. This large increase in value was due mainly to a rise in prices in these commodities and only partly to increased volume of trade (see Appendices III and IV).

30. It is interesting to trace the growth of this export trade from the Territory. The first mention of the export of ground-nuts and ground-nut kernels is found in the Annual Report for 1907 and of ground-nut oil in that for 1912. Up till 1914 the principal market was Hamburg. Now nearly all such exports are sold to Hongkong for redistribution. A table (Appendix III) is attached showing all figures of export available.

31. *Exports (Steamers)*.—For the reasons stated in paragraph 27, exports (and imports) by steamer and exports (and imports) by junk require distinguishing. A comparative table is attached (Appendix IV) showing the principal exports both by steamer and junk in 1920 and 1921. (The totals of exports and imports by steamer and junk during 1920 and 1921 are shown in Appendix II). The reasons for the principal increases and decreases have already been referred to in paragraphs 26 and 29. As regards exports by steamers, the chief increases and decreases (in values) were as follows :—

	1920.	1921.	Increase.
	\$	\$	\$
Ground-nuts	4,556	79,072	74,516
Ground-nut kernels ..	1,290,384	2,062,368	771,984
Ground-nut oil	45,978	331,691	285,713
Eggs	10,765	35,410	24,645
			<i>Decrease.</i>
Salt	913,561	363,420	550,141
Fish	68,090	38,272	29,818

32. *Exports (Junk)*.—The chief increases and decreases in value were as follows :—

	1920.	1921.	Increase.
	\$	\$	\$
Bean cake	7,342	18,858	11,576
Eggs	835	3,405	2,560
Sugar	62,175	251,025	188,850
			<i>Decrease.</i>
Fish (salt or dried) ..	71,654	51,478	20,176

This re-export of sugar, which is imported chiefly from Hongkong, was explained in paragraph 27. The decrease exports of fish (both by steamer and junk) are due to smaller catches, although the price of fish rose.

33. *Imports*.—The total value of imports during 1921 amounted to \$5,630,432, as compared with \$4,541,551 in 1920. The increase is accounted for partly by the volume of goods imported and partly by increase in values. The principal imports both by steamer and junk in 1920 and 1921 are shown in the comparative table (Appendix V).

34. *Imports (Steamer)*.—The principal increases and decreases in such imports by values are as follows :—

	1920.	1921.	Increase.
	\$	\$	\$
Rice	304	197,868	197,564
Sugar	121,425	509,445	388,020
Cotton yarn ..	640,390	911,710	271,380
Oil (Kerosine) ..	440	95,438	94,998
Coal	51,155	149,875	98,720
Tobacco	11,970	52,260	40,290
Timber	75,068	122,100	47,030
Piece goods ..	181,600	342,800	161,200
			<i>Decrease.</i>
Flour	102,451	88,632	13,819
Provisions ..	112,880	77,000	35,880
Kaoliang	38,895	Nil.	38,895

The import of "Kaoliang" in 1920 was on account of famine relief. Flour shows a further decrease. Provisions probably reacted from excessive stocks in the previous year. The increased imports, more especially of rice, tobacco, piece-goods, and timber, denote recovery from the famine. Piece-goods have more than recovered the large drop of last year.

35. *Imports (Junk)*.—The principal increases and decreases in these imports by value are as follows :—

	1920	1921	Increase.
	\$	\$	\$
Bean cake oil	25,830	255,900	230,070
Millet	9,270	29,125	19,855
Chinese wine	144,403	213,840	69,437
			<i>Decrease.</i>
Salt	66,891	20,542	46,349
Kaoliang	37,785	9,373	28,412
Indian corn	264,862	159,010	105,852

The last two decreases are due to cessation of famine ; that of salt over the already low import in 1920 was probably due to causes stated in paragraph 37 below.

36. *Shipping*.—The total number of steamers that called at Port Edward, exclusive of those seeking shelter only on account of stress of weather, was 554 of 518,767 tons, as compared with 515 of 480,287 tons in 1920 and 146 of 151,809 in 1902. The nationalities of these steamers were : British 405, Chinese 140, Japanese 2, Russian 3, American 3, Polish 1. British steamers showed an increase of 55 and Chinese a decrease of 16.

The total number of junks entering and clearing was 1,998, as compared with 2,874 in 1920: a decrease due to the reduction in imports of salt, which virtually ceased in 1921, and to reduced imports of grain in consequence of good crops.

37. *Salt and other Industries.*—The most important industry in the Territory at present, actually and potentially, is the production of salt by evaporation. In 1902 the area under salt pans was less than 30 acres. During recent years it has increased enormously, and it is now estimated that the area under development capable of producing good salt is 600 acres.

38. The decreased imports and exports of salt have already been referred to. They amounted to 56,495 and 135,313 piculs respectively, as compared with 268,103 and 384,161 piculs in 1920 (1 picul = 133½ lbs.), entailing a loss in "extra salt dues," apart from shipping dues, of \$3,037. The main causes were explained in paragraph 26. In addition, high junk freights and, in the autumn, control by the Chinese Salt Administration of the Shantung Promontory salt supply, which has been for centuries free and uncontrolled, were strongly contributory causes. It is stated that, in order to pacify the Tung An (i.e. Promontory) salt merchants, export of their salt abroad to Corea has been sanctioned. If this rumour is correct, and there is reason to suppose it is, this Territory will have to depend in future on its own production for export abroad, and it is no longer safe to count on a source of revenue, which, though fluctuating, has prevailed since 1905, when exports to Japan are first mentioned.

39. The production of Territory salt in 1921 is said to have amounted to 1,500 tons (25,200 piculs) only. The estimate is made by competent observers, and is probably correct, since a strong gale, in conjunction with abnormally high tides, destroyed or damaged all the "salt pans" last summer along the coast, with a reported loss of 7,000 piculs of salt and damage amounting to several thousands of dollars. I am inclined to think, however, that the present normal annual output amounts to 33,600 piculs and that, with amalgamation of salterns and more modern methods without undue expenditure, the same area should produce over 300,000 piculs annually at a conservative estimate. The consumption of the Territory is estimated at 15,441 piculs (i.e. 10 catties a head for all purposes, which is the estimated normal *per caput* consumption in China, as against 18 in Japan and 12 in India). This will leave a surplus of 285,559 piculs per annum for export, for which there is undoubtedly a ready and increasing market in Japan, where there is danger of shortage of salt for industrial purposes (see Board of Trade Journal of 9th June, 1921, p. 644).

40. For the last two years a salt refinery has been contemplated, but, although Chinese capital was forthcoming, the project has not materialised, owing probably in part to uncertainty as to the future of Weihaiwei and in part to the uncertainty of a market for the refined salt, to which markets would be closed in China, where salt is a Government monopoly.

41. *Other Industries.*—There are no manufactures in the Territory. During the year the making by hand of lace, stockings and hair nets has increased. The first and a very interesting reference to this last named industry, which has reached enormous dimensions at Chefoo, where the export in 1921 valued Hk. \$7,078,230, is to be found at page 8 of the Annual Report for 1913. There is no reason why this trade as well as that of lace making should not be more important at Weihaiwei even than in Chefoo.

42. *Agriculture and Forestry.*—The export crops, i.e. the spring crop of wheat and the autumn crop of ground-nuts, were excellent. The remaining autumn crops, which are the staple foodstuffs of the people, were only average and the bean crop failed. There has been no cadastral survey of the Territory, and neither the areas under cultivation generally nor still less under individual crops can be accurately ascertained. It is estimated, however, that only two-fifths of the Territory is cultivable.

43. *Land.*—The value of land in Port Edward and on the Island of Liukung is assessed, as has been already stated, at \$250 to \$800 a mou. The value of land elsewhere varies from \$10 to \$250 a mou. By Chinese law and custom, all unoccupied lands, whether originally waste or formerly cultivated, but abandoned through famine, civil war or otherwise, are deemed to be public property and vest in the State. It has never been ascertained what (undoubtedly large) proportion of land in the Territory falls under these categories, but it is certain that prescriptive rights at least have been enjoyed over almost all such areas by communities or individuals over long periods, and the right, though acknowledged in all cases which have arisen, would be difficult to enforce, if total deprivation of such prescriptive rights were the end in view.

44. *Labour.*—A table is attached (Appendix VI) showing the average rate of wages for labour within the Territory

45. *Forestry.*—In comparison with the enormous sums spent on afforestation during the German occupation of Tsingtao, the sum which has been spent in this Territory, which amounts to approximately \$49,000, is negligible. Such improvements, however, have been gradually effected as funds permitted. Over three million fir trees were planted on the Island between 1907 and 1917. The hill sides in the neighbourhood of Port Edward have been largely planted with fir trees supplied by the Government, and the roads are lined with acacia trees (*robinia-pseudo-acacia*)—a tree peculiarly suited to the climate of the Territory, and of which large numbers are grown annually in the Government nurseries and supplied at a nominal charge to the villagers. The Chinese population, however, have not yet grasped the advisability of afforesting the hills. The present desire for fuel during the cold winter months is a much more cogent argument than the hope of the future.

46. During the year under review but little has been done in the way of forestry. On the mainland, 700 acacia trees were planted out ; 11,505 one-year acacia trees were planted in the East fort and have grown most successfully ; 16,480 acacia trees were grown from Government seed. A large number of shrubs were planted out in Government land. On the Island, 3,000 acacia trees (supplied from the mainland) and 600 shrubs were planted at the Naval Village ; besides the planting out and bedding of various trees and shrubs. The caterpillar, known locally as the " fir-dog," conducted his usual attacks on the fir trees both on the mainland and Island, and women were employed for periods during the summer months for their destruction.

47. *Banks and Currency*.—The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australasia and China have both had agencies in the Territory from its earliest days. The rate of exchange is obtained daily by cable from Shanghai and banking facilities are good. The average telegraphic transfer rate on London during 1921 was $2/6\frac{1}{2} = \$1$.

The currency of the Territory is a matter which has long received attention and requires reform. At present there is no recognised currency. The " Shanghai " notes of the two banks above mentioned circulate at " par." All other notes of foreign banks circulate only at a discount. Mexican and Chinese silver dollars and Chinese silver and copper subsidiary coinage of all kinds circulate. There was an excessive import of copper coins during 1921 and steps were taken to prevent further importation.

In addition to the above coinage, a number of native shops issue " notes," both " dollar " and " cash," which form in practice the usual currency of the people. In order to check excessive issues the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Port Edward and the native city, agreed to " chop " and guarantee payment of such " native shop notes " as were registered with them under strict rules as to supervision, issue and reserve. In practice, this system has worked satisfactorily since its introduction a few years back. It has greatly checked the number of bankruptcies and attendant harm to holders of notes who now know that they accept all other " native shop notes " at their own risk. The Government, in practice, prefers to accept " chopped " notes in payment rather than silver dollars, but they are not accepted as currency by the foreign banks.

V. LEGISLATION.

48. Ten Ordinances were introduced during the year, of which five were connected with the Treaties of Peace after the late war.

The three following Ordinances only are of any general interest :

1. The Peace Preservation Ordinance (No. 2 of 1921).
2. The Stamp Ordinance (No. 5 of 1921).
3. The Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Ordinance (No. 10 of 1921).

The last-named Ordinance provides for the reciprocal enforcement of judgments between the High Court of this Territory and a superior Court of the United Kingdom, and provides for extension of the procedure in the event of reciprocity to any part of His Majesty's dominions.

Ordinance No. 2 of 1921 gives the Commissioner the necessary powers to preserve the peace in case of civil disturbances. The Stamp Ordinance grants the Commissioner powers to collect fees by means of revenue stamps for certain services set forth in the Schedules to the Ordinance, which Schedules in the case of Weihaiwei, with its native population, are partly based on the similar Schedules of Hongkong and partly on those obtaining under the Stamp Law of China.

VI. EDUCATION.

49. *European.*—There is one Preparatory School for European boys in Port Edward (Weihaiwei School). The pupils range from 8 to 14 years of age, and are drawn from all parts of China, and are mainly British boys. The atmosphere of the school is essentially British.

The enrolment for 1921 was 38 and the staff consists of the headmaster, one assistant master and two mistresses, assisted by a matron and a gymnasium instructor, all Europeans.

The curriculum embraces the usual subjects taught in home schools of similar grade and a special feature is preparation for entrance into Public Schools in England. There is a school playing ground and sport is specially catered for.

50. *Chinese Mission Schools.*—Missionary educational activity is not very extensive in the Territory, and is confined to industrial and more or less primary grades. All the mission schools are situated in Port Edward, but a girls' school is about to be reopened in a large village about 20 miles from Port Edward.

51. *Roman Catholics.*—(a) *Industrial.* The institution carried on by the Convent Sisters is not primarily educational, but as young girls are constantly trained there and periodically leave the institution for their homes it represents what is practically an educational agency.

The chief branches are lace making and embroidery. These are taught by specialists from Europe. Lace of a superior grade is made under the supervision of the special instructresses, who teach the art of designing as well as practical bobbin work. The result is that a steady stream of competent lace workers, capable of continuing their occupation in their own homes or in the employment of manufacturers, is constantly flowing from the convent into the Territory. This class of skilled workers is a valuable asset to the community, and their economic value is being felt in their employment by traders from lace centres further North, who have opened small branches of their establishments

in Weihaiwei City. Native employers also engage the trained workers, sometimes in small factories and often in the workers' own homes.

(b) *Primary Education*.—Nil.

52. *Anglican*.—The Anglican Mission (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) has one boys' school in Port Edward. The enrolment during 1921 was 140, the ages ranging from 10 to 20 years. The school is difficult to grade as no particular curriculum is followed. Its main subject is the teaching of English, but Chinese subjects also are taught. The staff comprises one European master and six Chinese assistant masters, some of whom engage in the teaching of English in addition to Chinese subjects. Funds are derived entirely from fees.

53. *Independent Missions*.—The Plymouth Brethren have established two schools in Port Edward, one for girls and one for boys. The Girls' School is divided into Lower and Higher Primary and follows a special curriculum, set by the Central China Educational Board, which approximates closely to the curriculum prescribed by the Chinese Government. Attendance averages about 50 with a staff of three teachers. No statistics are given for the boys' school. The expenses are met largely from mission funds. Fees are low and in many instances are not levied.

54. *Government Schools*.—(1) One Boys' School, Lower and Higher Primary with English; enrolment 146; staff, four teachers and visiting teachers in special subjects. Conducted entirely under Government supervision. Curriculum—Chinese Government Board of Education. About one-half of the pupils are free, the other half pay nominal fees. Balance from Government funds.

(2) *Mixed School in Liukungtao*.—Subsidized by Government (\$250 per annum) and balance of about \$400 to \$450 by contribution. Grade Lower and Higher Primary, attendance averages between 40 and 50. Teachers, 1.

55. *Indigenous Schools*.—There are in the Territory nearly 300 vernacular schools, with an attendance of about 5,000 pupils of from 6 to 16 years old. The number of girls is under 100.

The schools are divided nearly equally into two classes, the Modern and what may be described as the Old Style.

The former attempt to conform to the standard of the Chinese Government Board of Education and for the most part are divided into Lower and Higher Primary. Some of the modern schools are very efficient and are staffed by fully qualified teachers; a few attempt to teach English.

The old style schools follow traditional Chinese methods and specialise on the Chinese classics. Some are quite up to the standard of similar schools in China proper, but others are very inefficient. There is however a commendable keenness gradually to abolish this type of school and substitute modern schools. The difficulty is dearth of suitable teachers on the one hand, and a

reluctance on the part of some villages to discard the old style of teacher, who finds it difficult to adjust himself to the requirements of modern educational methods.

It is difficult to arrive at the actual cost of the Territory schools. The school buildings are in nearly every case provided by the village communities and are generally public buildings, such as temples, or what correspond to parish halls in England. The expense of upkeep, etc., falls on the villages. There are also outlays on school furniture, which in the case of modern schools must be considerable. These expenditures are also provided for by the villagers and in some cases contributed to by the richer Chinese.

The only item of expenditure in regard to which accurate returns are made is teachers' salaries, which in 1921 amounted to about \$15,000, derived partly from fees and partly from communal, and in some instances family or even private, subscriptions.

In addition to stipends the teachers also receive gifts of food-stuffs and in some cases travelling expenses.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS, MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

56. *Census*.—The decennial Census was taken throughout the Territory between 24th April and 16th May. A separate and interesting Report on the Census was written by Mr. Hardy Jowett, Acting Senior District Officer, who was the Officer in Charge, and it will be sufficient to state here that the native population, as already noted, was found to be 154,416, as compared with 146,840 in 1911, or an increase of 5·3 per cent., while the foreign population was 246, as compared with 293 in 1911. Among the Chinese population there were 80,953 males to 73,463 females, in spite of a fairly large emigration of the former to Manchuria.

57. *The Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages* among the Chinese population is not compulsory and no figures are available. During 1921 among the foreign population there were one birth, three deaths and three marriages, as against two, two, and three respectively in the preceding year.

The Census revealed the fact that the number of infants under 5 years of age was 17,859, and the number of adults over 70 5,418, of whom 20 were over 90.

58. The general health condition of Europeans was good. Of the three deaths only one was of an infectious disease (dysentery). There was one other case of acute dysentery among visitors and one case of scarlet fever in a resident. During the summer on the Island of Liukung there were a few cases of septic throats.

59. The health of the native population was equally good. A mild out-break of influenza occurred in May, when 56 cases were seen; two of these were treated in hospital, and both recovered. The only other cases of infectious diseases noted were six of enteric fever, four of erysipelas, and thirty-two of mumps.

The annual vaccination campaign was carried out from 15th March to 15th April. The total number of vaccinations was 6,794, of whom 98·8 per cent. were successful, as compared with 5,514, with a percentage of 98·26 successes in 1920.

60. *Hospitals*.—There is no European civil hospital in the Territory and the need is urgent, especially during the summer months, when the hotels are full of visitors with their children. Segregation hospital accommodation for natives as well as Europeans is still unprovided for. There are three native civil hospitals, one at Port Edward, one on the Island of Liukung, and one at Wench'uant'ang, with accommodation respectively for 41, 12, and 4 patients. When the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Muat, arrived in 1906 there was only a makeshift native hospital at Port Edward with 15 trestle beds, and a total attendance of 4,806 patients. In 1908 the present Port Edward Hospital was begun and was gradually added to as funds permitted. In 1920 attendances numbered 14,500, and in 1921, 14,040, including 9,651 "out" and 277 "in" patients. Sixty-four major operations were performed, including three abdominal sections, one amputation of the arm and one radical cure for hernia, all of which were successful. The Island Hospital was built in 1915, and in 1921 there were 3,266 attendances, including 2,355 "out" and 33 "in" patients. The Wench'uant'ang Hospital, which is in charge of a native assistant, was built in 1916 and attendances during 1921 were 6,969, including 6,283 new cases, as compared with 6,367 attendances, including 5,383 new cases, in 1920. The medical progress in the Territory reflects great credit on Dr. Muat.

61. *Sanitation*.—Considerable improvements have been effected during the year in the sanitary condition of Port Edward and the Island, although sanitary conditions at Weihaiwei have for years past excited the favourable comment of visitors. It is proposed to pursue a policy of gradual improvement in Port Edward, as funds permit, including the sinking of artesian wells in order to secure a supply of pure water. Several such private wells already exist. A pure water supply for the island has been assured by the sinking of two artesian wells and a third is in course of preparation. Before next summer the present system, which aims at providing at well-head, or from stand pipes in convenient positions, an ample supply for drinking purposes and, in case of drought, when the shallow wells are apt to run dry, an ample supply for all purposes, should be complete. With the completion, it is hoped, during 1922 of a few minor improvements the sanitary condition of the Island should be as ideal as practical politics allow. The Chinese population is limited, and will all be housed under proper sanitary conditions. Chinese cultivation is prohibited. It is true that the system of earth closets and removal of night-soil by hand at stated intervals obtain both on the Island and in Port Edward, but in such a small community the method is fairly satisfactory, so long as it receives the constant supervision which is now possible under a qualified Sanitary Inspector.

VIII. CLIMATE.

62. The climate of Weihaiwei is without superior on the China coast and, taken the whole year round, can have few superiors in the world. The winds which are prevalent in the spring are sometimes unpleasant, and the cold from mid-December until mid-March, with an insufficient snowfall for winter sports, is not inviting, but neither heat nor cold are ever excessive, the air is dry and bracing, rainy days are few, and sunshine is a normal condition. It is unfortunate that visitors to Weihaiwei experience some of the most unpleasant months. The weather from mid-September until mid-December is almost perfect. A good description of the local climate is to be found at page 6 of the Annual Report for 1918.

63. The highest barometric reading obtained during the year was 30·621 in December and the lowest 29·180 in July, the average monthly range being ·621. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded were 92° Fahrenheit and 16° Fahrenheit, in August and January respectively.

The two wettest months were September and August, with 8·51 and 3·85 inches. Rain or snow fell on 58 days, the total rainfall being 23·36 inches as against 20·16, 18·17 and 15·53 inches in the three preceding years. The average rainfall in the past 21 years is 22·002 inches; the highest rainfall was that of 1914 with 47·72 inches, and the lowest that of 1918 with 15·53 inches.

There were 271 days of sunshine, the greatest number in any months being 27 and 26 in January and October, and the lowest number 17 and 19 in July and October respectively.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS, ROADS, TELEPHONES, TELEGRAPHS AND POSTS.

64. *Communications and Roads.*—Port Edward lies approximately 10 miles, 18 miles and 7 miles off the direct steamer routes Shanghai-Chefoo-Tientsin, Shanghai-Dalny, and Shanghai-Chinwangtao respectively. Communication by sea during four months in the summer is good, an average of three British ships calling every week at the port both from Shanghai and Tientsin. During six more months it is satisfactory, and during January and February only it leaves much to be desired.

There are no railways in the Territory, and it is certain that the construction of a broad gauge railway, connecting up with the hinterland would, at the present stage, be premature. It is doubtful even whether a light railway would pay its way. The line of development in communications best suited to the present needs of the Territory is the adaptation of the existing roads to motor lorry traffic. During 1921 the Government was approached in the matter by certain Chinese merchants of Port Edward, who proposed to run a service of motor lorries between Port Edward and markets outside the Territory, where they stated that the roads were sufficiently good for the purpose. This Government has been

advised that the existing roads within the Territory are not suited for motor traffic, although they are very much superior to any neighbouring roads in Chinese Territory. It is estimated that the total cost of conversion of the present Territory road system into first class motor roads would be \$424,000—widening, altering bad bends, putting in concrete culverts, bridges, etc., including construction of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of new road to the frontier at Ts'aomiaotzu—and that the subsequent annual cost of upkeep would be \$32,000 as compared with \$11,000 at the present time. The cost of total conversion would be prohibitive, but the conversion of the existing road to the frontier at Ch'iaot'ou, with a branch to Liulintzu, which is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the frontier at Ts'aomiaotzu—a total of $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles—would meet any pressing need, the cost would be little more than half (with a corresponding reduction in upkeep) and, if the demand continues, measures are contemplated to proceed with the work and raise the necessary funds by a voluntary levy on shipping dues similar to that which built the Wuk'ou pier and is building the Wuk'ou improvement scheme.

At the neighbouring Chinese port of Chefoo similar road construction has been much canvassed and many schemes are in contemplation to be paid for by a voluntary surtax on Customs Dues. A mud road from Chefoo-Weihsien is said to be almost completed at a cost of nearly \$1,000,000.

65. There are 50 miles of macadamised Government roads, which are maintained in good condition for cart and carriage traffic at an annual cost, including gradual improvement, not exceeding \$15,000, as against 23 miles of mud roads in 1902, of which the annual cost of maintenance was estimated at \$2,000. In addition, there are now some 50 miles of village roads or "by-ways," of which about 28 additional miles were opened during the year, which are partly macadamised and possible for carriage traffic, but are mainly improved mule tracks, possible for carts only. The Government continues to encourage these "village roads" both by propaganda and by an annual subsidy, and continues to be indebted to Mr. Liang Tejang of Mengchiachuang for the unremunerated trouble he has taken in their supervision and for his pioneer keenness and example, which has done and is doing much to improve inter-communication within the Territory. During the year under review, despite the ever increasing traffic and a rainfall of 6.65 inches in a few hours on 18th September which did considerable damage, Government roads have been maintained in fair condition. Another dangerous place near Ch'ichiachuang has been dealt with and the road protected and widened. A similar section near Hushan is to be dealt with in 1922. A portion of the road near the South Gate has been widened and protected by a retaining wall and on various sections concrete culverts have been put in. All roads within the Territory have unquestionably improved greatly during the last few years under the supervision of Mr. Jennings, the Inspector of Police in charge of Public Works.

66. *Telephones*.—There is a telephone system in Port Edward, the management of which was taken over by the Government in 1917, and a fairly satisfactory day and night service is maintained. The system, however, is a single line system, is very worn, and there is not sufficient accommodation to meet the demand. During the year it became possible to accommodate seven more subscribers by utilising an old switchboard and creating a sub-exchange for Government Officers at the Headquarters Police Station. A telephone cable, renewed in 1917, connects the mainland with the Island, where a small telephone system is maintained by the Admiralty.

67. *Telegraphs*.—The Chefoo-Weihaiwei Cable, which is subsidised by the Imperial Government and worked by the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, with a head office on the Island of Liukung and a branch office at Port Edward, which is maintained by this Government, worked well throughout the year. A flaw occurred in the autumn, but was fortunately located near the Island by Mr. Spencer, the local Superintendent of the Company, and was picked up and repaired by him at a negligible cost.

In addition, the Chinese Telegraph Administration have an office in the Native City of Weihaiwei with a land line running through the Territory and terminating at Chefoo.

68. *Posts*.—Apart from a branch of the Chinese Postal Administration in the Native City of Weihaiwei, which does not concern this report, the Postal Services of the Territory are maintained by an Agency of the Hongkong Post Office, with a main office in Port Edward and a branch office on the Island of Liukung. The Territory does not maintain its own Post Office.

The mails despatched by steamers—and occasionally by couriers to Chefoo through the medium of the Chinese Postal Administration—consisted of 753 bags, containing 5,961 registered articles and 3,440 parcels, in addition to unregistered correspondence and 362 closed bags in transit. The mails received consisted of 1,159 bags and 19 covers, containing 1,871 registered articles, 1,447 parcels, in addition to ordinary correspondence, and 215 closed bags in transit.

The mails received from London via Shanghai were despatched on 65 days and received at the Postal Agency on 57 days. One mail arrived from London in 34 days but another took 59 days before it reached Weihaiwei. The irregularity of the mails is partly accounted for by the unsatisfactory steamer connections during the winter, referred to in paragraph 64.

The presence of the Fleet and the record number of summer visitors made their influence felt in a considerable increase in receipts over 1920, which showed in its turn a great advance on the previous year. The total receipts of the past six years are as follows :—

		\$			\$
1916	..	7,035.21	1919	..	8,415.52
1917	..	14,504.08	1920	..	22,896.16
1918	..	9,275.33	1921	..	40,304.53

X. PUBLIC WORKS.

69. By far the most important work under this heading during the year was the commencement of the Wuk'ou Improvement Scheme from plans prepared by Messrs. Wright and Henderson of the Public Works Department in Hongkong. The scheme consists in bunding and reclaiming a portion of the sea front beside the Wuk'ou Pier and the erection of an enclosed compound with storage sheds, and is designed for the better handling, storage, loading and unloading of cargo. The cost is being defrayed by a loan secured by a voluntary levy of 25 per cent. on shipping dues. On 2nd March the tender of a local contractor was accepted for \$49,300. The work of collecting the necessary stone and other materials was commenced at once, and by the end of April it was possible to commence the work of constructing the sea wall. The work was continued steadily until Christmas, when stopped by frost, and stood the test of a strong gale combined with the highest tide known in the past twenty years, which occurred during the summer and has already been referred to in connection with the destruction of the salt pans. Good progress has been made, and it is hoped to complete the works by June next. Mr. Henderson of the Public Works Department in Hongkong visited Weihaiwei in August in connection with the above works and in connection with the question of the Island Water Supply.

70. The only other Public Work on the mainland which requires comment is the virtual reconstruction and enlargement of the Public Slaughter-House, where the whole of the meat consumed by the China Fleet during their annual visit is slaughtered. It is now an up-to-date and very creditable slaughter-house.

71. On the Island, the lay-out of the Civil East Village has been completed, two laundries have been built by private capital but "in accordance with plan," to deal with the washing of the Fleet, and two blocks of shops have been erected in the West Village. The sites for these shops were leased by Government and the shops erected in accordance with plans prepared by Messrs. Wright and Henderson, at the expense of the lessees. One similar block will complete the outlay of the West Village and will be proceeded with as soon as weather permits in the spring. The Water Supply of the Island has already been referred to in paragraph 61.

A. P. BLUNT,
*Officer Administering
the Government.*

Government House,
Weihaiwei.
4th March, 1922.

APPENDIX I.

Financial Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Savings from previous year.	Grants-in-Aid.	
				Sterling.	Dollars.
	\$	\$	\$	£	\$
1902-03 ..	31,715 00	142,500 00	—	12,000	—
1903-04 ..	58,364 02	166,921 70	82,820 96	12,000	112,643 36
1904-05 ..	90,415 00	162,282 70	90,785 62	6,000	65,312 26
1905-06 ..	105,934 02	146,120 12	84,230 24	3,000	30,869 56
1906-07 ..	76,777 13	160,973 63	72,245 00	4,500	41,829 64
1907-08 ..	80,331 47	173,340 82	29,878 87	10,000	93,159 27
1908-09 ..	83,277 20	168,740 71	30,028 79	10,000	112,489 26
1909-10 ..	83,499 49	145,687 90	57,054 54	4,400	52,402 16
1910-11 ..	75,353 58	145,028 58	47,268 29	5,000	59,401 67
1911-12 ..	75,673 61	153,690 38	36,994 96	6,000	68,571 43
1912-13 ..	79,582 11	146,146 70	23,820 12	6,000	61,880 37
1913-14 ..	93,780 46	166,959 73	21,865 40	8,300	86,391 24
1914-15 ..	109,898 84	148,185 77	35,077 37	5,000	55,868 54
1915-16 ..	115,662 00	156,697 27	52,117 40	3,500	40,756 02
1916-17 ..	126,908 75	139,299 43	52,379 73	Nil.	Nil.

APPENDIX II.

Table of Total Volume and Value of Trade.

	1920.		1921.	
	Packages.	\$	Packages.	\$
Imports by Steamers ..	137,524	2,458,092	190,875	3,395,322
Imports by Junks ..	865,846	2,083,459	632,505	2,235,110
Total Imports ..	1,003,370	4,541,551	823,380	5,630,432
Exports by Steamers ..	487,043	2,579,612	495,957	4,731,990
Exports by Junks ..	94,697	347,011	92,234	529,401
Total Exports ..	581,740	2,926,623	588,191	5,261,391
Total Trade ..	(1,585,110)	7,468,174	(1,411,571)	10,891,823

Net increase in values of 1921 over 1920 = \$3,423,649.

APPENDIX III.

Export of Ground Nuts, Etc., 1905-1921 (inclusive).

Year.	Ground Nuts— piculs.	Kernels— piculs.	Oil— tins.
1905	5,219	2,877	—
1906	24,168	13,505	—
1907	12,294	25,320	—
1908	16,000	60,753	—
1909	39,600	100,700	—
1910	6,893	141,293	—
1911	9,190	142,961	—
1912	3,780	123,223	13,067
1913	5,947	176,036	26,666
1914	4,724	187,793	10,788
1915	10,214	247,372	25,519
1916	2,890	173,934	33,298
1917 } 1918 } 1919 }	No Figures.		
1920 }	" "	269,160	13,738
1921 }	" "	301,053	15,326
1921	56,933	360,914	94,769

1 picul = 133½ lbs.

1 tin = 4 galls.

APPENDIX IV.

Comparative Table of Principal Exports.

Classifier of Quan- tity.		1921.				1920.			
		By Steamers.		By Junks.		By Steamers.		By Junks.	
		Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.
Bean cakes ..	pieces	—	\$ —	9,429	18,858	50	\$ 65	5,648	\$ 7,342
Bean oil ..	barrels	—	—	995	9,950	—	—	27	270
Bean paste ..	tins	171	855	1,783	8,915	79	395	949	4,745
Casks ..	—	595	14,775	—	—	551	11,020	—	—
Cotton yarn ..	bales	—	—	100	3,550	—	—	40	6,800
Cotton, raw ..	bales	7	245	85	2,875	2	60	480	14,400
Eggs ..	crates	7,082	35,410	681	3,405	2,153	10,765	167	835
Groundnut kernels,	bags	257,796	2,062,368	794	6,352	215,064	1,290,384	97	582
Groundnut oil	tins	94,769	331,691	1,012	3,542	15,326	45,978	2,777	6,831
Groundnuts	bags	22,594	79,072	120	420	2,278	4,556	82	164
Fish—Salt and dried.	baskets	4,784	38,272	6,434	51,478	6,809	68,090	10,236	71,654
Leather ..	bundles	1	70	70	11,963	—	—	269	539
Medicine ..	boxes	80	4,000	578	28,900	427	4,270	513	5,130
Old iron ..	piculs	—	—	3,082	15,143	—	—	5,009	25,049
Paper ..	bales	32	96	1,867	7,468	—	—	2,756	11,024
Sasson ..	boxes	1,036	31,080	—	—	916	27,480	—	—
Salt ..	piculs	90,855	363,430	46	16	228,379	913,561	18	5
Sugar ..	bags	135	1,755	16,735	251,025	16	240	4,145	62,175
Timber ..	pieces	12	144	31,509	18,905	—	—	41,051	24,630

APPENDIX V.

Comparative Table of Principal Imports.

Classifier of Quan- tity.		1921.				1920.			
		By Steamers.		By Junks.		By Steamers.		By Junks.	
		Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.
			\$		\$		\$		\$
Beans ..	bags	—	—	8,865	31,028	—	—	16,687	50,062
Bean cakes ..	pieces	4,563	11,407	39,238	78,476	—	—	78,593	102,170
Bean oil ..	tins	—	—	25,590	255,900	110	1,980	2,583	25,830
Candles ..	cases	6,089	24,356	47	188	619	2,476	128	448
Cement ..	casks	3,710	29,680	96	576	2,107	12,642	24	140
Cigarettes ..	cases	788	95,460	6	720	594	71,280	10	1,200
Coal ..	tons	11,529	149,875	1,281	19,221	3,935	51,155	1,646	21,399
Chinese wine	jars	2,632	3,158	26,730	213,840	2,149	2,579	20,629	144,403
Coin copper ..	bags	—	—	806	56,420	—	—	523	36,610
Cotton, raw ..	bales	3,977	119,310	197	6,895	5,967	179,010	394	11,820
Cotton yarn ..	bales	5,363	911,710	—	—	3,767	640,390	5	850
Corn, Indian	bags	1	4	53,003	159,010	7,065	28,260	105,945	264,862
Fish—Salt	baskets	—	—	10,753	86,027	3	33	13,263	92,841
and dried.									
Flour ..	bags	29,544	88,632	19,615	58,845	35,328	102,451	14,277	39,976
Groundnut	bags	480	3,840	79,041	632,328	—	—	95,698	574,188
kernels.									
Groundnut oil	tins	—	—	100,990	35,346	—	—	18,520	55,560
Gunny Bags	bales	2,138	106,900	238	9,520	1,673	83,650	4	200
Kerosene oil	cases	15,149	95,438	8,544	51,264	80	440	19,789	108,840
Kaoliang ..	piculs	—	—	3,124	9,373	15,558	38,895	15,114	37,785
Matches ..	cases	62	310	2,256	14,100	2,211	11,055	458	1,374
Millet ..	bags	—	—	7,281	29,125	—	—	2,317	9,270
Paper ..	bales	14,269	57,076	9,981	39,924	9,901	39,604	6,348	25,392
Piece Goods	boxes	1,714	342,800	61	12,300	908	181,600	119	23,800
Provisions ..	cases	1,925	77,000	54	270	2,822	112,880	36	180
Rice ..	bags	16,489	197,868	14,204	99,430	38	304	28,402	142,010
Salt ..	piculs	—	—	58,691	20,542	—	—	267,567	66,891
Sugar ..	bags	33,963	509,445	106	1,378	8,095	121,425	12	180
Timber ..	pieces	10,175	122,100	66,277	39,766	5,756	75,068	94,831	56,888
Tobacco ..	cases	1,742	52,260	798	15,960	399	11,970	399	11,970
Treasure ..	cases	17	68,000	—	—	69	276,000	—	—
Wine, foreign	cases	2,599	51,980	—	—	2,235	44,700	1	20

APPENDIX VI.

AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES FOR LABOUR.

Predial.—30 tiao to 60 tiao per annum, with board and lodging.

Domestic Servants :

Employed by Chinese.—Male, 30 tiao to 40 tiao per annum, with board and lodging ; Female, \$2.00 to \$7.00 a month, with board and lodging.

Employed by Foreigners.—\$8.00 to \$20.00 a month, with lodging but not board.

Gardeners :

Employed by Foreigners.—\$8.00 to \$11.00 a month, with lodging but not board.

Trades, Chinese Workmen : 100 tiao to 300 tiao a year, with board and lodging.

Unskilled Labourers :

Employed by Foreigners.—30 cents to 40 cents per day, without food.

Employed by Chinese.—200 cash to 300 cash a day, with food, or 500 cash to 600 cash a day, without food.

Ordinary Competent Mechanics :—

Blacksmiths and Fitters :

Employed by Foreigners.—\$1.00 to \$3.00 a day.

Employed by Chinese.—300 cash to 1 tiao a day, and food.

APPENDIX VI.—*Continued.*

Carpenters and Joiners :

Employed by Foreigners.—70 cents to 80 cents a day.

Employed by Chinese.—500 cash to 1 tiao a day, and food.

Masons and Bricklayers :

Employed by Chinese.—300 cash to 500 cash a day, and food

Painters :

Employed by Chinese.—300 cash to 500 cash a day, and food.

(Note.—\$1.00 now changes for 1,560 cash ; 1,000 cash is 1 tiao ; \$1.00 now changes for 118½ cents ; during 1921 \$1=average about Tiao 1.420.)

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1086	Ceylon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1087	Barbados	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1090	Sierra Leone	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1091	Zanzibar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1092	Cayman Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1094	St. Vincent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1095	Bahamas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1098	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1099	New Hebrides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1100	Somaliland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1101	Straits Settlements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1102	Swaziland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1106	Seychelles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1107	Ashanti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1108	Hongkong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1109	British Guiana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1110	British Honduras	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1111	Malta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1115	Mauritius	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1116	Jamaica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1117	Cyprus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	..	..	..	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1119.

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1066.)



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FOR 1920.

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I.—GENERAL.

ADMINISTRATION.

The Government of the Colony was administered by Brigadier-General Frederick Gordon Guggisberg, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, from the beginning of the year until 1st June, when he proceeded on leave. Mr. A. R. Slater, C.M.G., C.B.E., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government from 2nd June until 5th October. General Guggisberg returned from leave of absence and administered the Government from 6th October, until the end of the year.

HONOURS.

Commandership of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Military Division) was conferred by His Majesty the King upon Captain H. G. Harris, late Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Justice Lionel Edward Hawtayne.

Mr. Owen Mitchell, Comptroller of Customs.

Captain William Merrick Fowler, Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary.

Captain Stanley Douglas King-Mason, Gold Coast Regiment.

Mr. Gilbert Moody, Assistant Commissioner of Police.

Captain H. G. S. Branch, Senior Superintendent, Agricultural Department.

Captain Spencer, Assistant Transport Officer.

Mr. William John Bernasconi, Mechanician, Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Mr. G. P. Edgerton, Foreman of Works.

Mr. Joseph Platt, Foreman of Works.

Mr. R. C. Reid, Foreman of Works.

Mr. L. W. Richards, District Station Master.

APPOINTMENTS.

Captain Cecil Hamilton Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories, was appointed to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gambia Colony and Protectorates on the retirement of Sir Edward Cameron on the 20th November, 1920.

Mr. Arthur James Philbrick, Provincial Commissioner, Ashanti, was promoted to be Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories in succession to Captain C. H. Armitage.

Mr. Charles Henry Harper, O.B.E., Chief Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, in place of Sir F. C. Fuller, K.B.E., C.M.G., who retired on pension on the 24th July, 1920.

Mr. A. A. C. Finlay, Senior Assistant Colonial Secretary, was promoted to be Chief Assistant Colonial Secretary, in succession to Mr. C. H. Harper, O.B.E.

Mr. R. W. H. Wilkinson, was appointed a Puisne Judge from the 29th March, in place of the late Mr. Justice L. E. Hawtayne.

Mr. Justice E. R. Logan, was appointed a Puisne Judge on transfer from Seychelles on the 9th June.

Mr. Carnegie Brown, was transferred from Sierra Leone to be Solicitor-General, from the 8th September.

Captain Cookson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed Inspector-General of Prisons, from the 28th February.

Captain J. M. Reid, Comptroller of Customs, British Guiana, was appointed Comptroller of Customs to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Owen Mitchell.

ESTABLISHMENT.

The European Establishment of the Colony and its Dependencies during the year was 662.

GENERAL CONDITIONS IN THE COLONY.

The Colony experienced a period of great prosperity to the first half of the year. At the beginning of 1920 the price of cocoa rose to the unprecedented height of £122 per ton. Farmers and merchants reaped very large profits; internal trade boomed and many new firms and individuals entered the market and shared in the general prosperity of the Colony. The money so made was in the majority of cases spent on luxuries, with the result that when towards the latter part of the year the price of cocoa began to decrease steadily until it reached £39 per ton and remained there, many individuals and firms were ruined.

Great development in building, road making, and railway construction took place during the year but progress was hampered by an insufficient supply of labour consequent on the cocoa boom and by difficulties due to the slow fulfilment of orders owing to post-war causes.

An event of the year was the formation of the National Congress of British West Africa, which sent a deputation to England to represent their political aspirations. Considerable opposition to their action was manifested by some of the Chiefs and people whom the Congress professed to represent. The year ended before the deputation had returned to West Africa to give an account of their mission.

II.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £3,721,772, being the highest on record.

The following table affords a more detailed comparison between 1919 and 1920 :—

Head of Revenue.	1919.	1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	1,672,423	2,281,820	609,397	—
2. Light Dues	1,932	2,556	624	—
3. Licences	41,477	61,088	19,611	—
4. Fees of Court, etc. ..	90,588	117,349	26,761	—
5. Railways	663,976	735,837	71,861	—
6. Posts and Telegraphs ..	50,057	62,971	12,914	—
7. Rent of Govt. Lands ..	6,957	8,468	1,511	—
8. Interest	38,615	331,690	293,075	—
9. Miscellaneous	34,903	119,932	85,029	—
10. Land Sales	432	61	—	371
	2,601,360	3,721,772	1,120,783	371

Net Increase £1,120,412.

Customs and Railway Receipts continue to be the chief sources of Revenue and the following table shows how large a proportion is due to Customs receipts :—

Year.	CUSTOMS.		RAILWAYS.		OTHER SOURCES.	
	Receipts.	Percent- age to Total revenue.	Receipts.	Percent- age to total revenue.	Receipts	Percent- age to total revenue.
1913 ..	779,593	60	357,329	27	164,644	13
1914 ..	768,829	58	380,716	28	184,168	14
1915 ..	828,015	57	445,898	30	182,217	13
1916 ..	1,132,000	62	505,665	27	198,324	11
1917 ..	893,785	55	494,338	30	236,001	15
1918 ..	619,973	48	453,250	35	225,451	17
1919 ..	1,672,423	64	663,976	26	264,960	10
1920 ..	2,281,820	61	735,837	20	704,115	19

The price of cocoa rose to 60s. per load in April and money being plentiful, trade was so good that the revenue from specific and ad valorem Import Duties and the Parcel Post exceeded the estimate by £911,224. The landed cost prices of imported articles were the highest on record in the Colony, and this accounted for part of the large increase in the Duties collected on ad valorem goods. The Export Duty on cocoa yielded £568,912, but the newly imposed duty on palm kernels brought in only £1,683. In spite of the enhanced export value of the latter, the price of cocoa was so high that the whole surplus population devoted their energies to the output of cocoa to the detriment of the palm kernel industry.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year was £2,856,347, and is the largest on record exceeding that for 1919 by £1,075,177.

The following table gives a comparison of the Expenditure for the years 1919 and 1920 :—

Head of Expenditure.	1919.	1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
1. The Governor	7,981	15,072	7,091	..
2. Supreme Court	12,339	18,467	6,128	..
3. Law Officers	5,064	6,602	1,538	..
4. Colonial Secretary's Office, etc.	14,395	22,514	8,119	..
5. Printing Office	17,179	25,369	8,190	..
6. Political Administration	74,851	112,289	37,438	..
7. Treasury	18,015	31,285	13,270	..
8. Audit Department ..	5,855	8,799	2,944	..
9. Customs	32,429	54,919	22,490	..
10. Customs Preventive Service	13,093	14,275	1,182	..
11. Marine	2,941	4,532	1,591	..
12. Accra Harbour Main- tenance	3,348	..	..	3,348
13. Railways	233,562	363,508	129,946	..
14. Posts and Telegraphs ..	63,336	94,483	31,147	..
15. Transport Department ..	7,125	..	..	7,125
16. Medical Department ..	64,687	103,798	39,111	..
17. Sanitation	55,713	101,421	45,708	..
18. Veterinary	1,295	3,259	1,964	..
19. Education	54,442	56,442	2,000	..
20. Agriculture	16,363	31,169	14,806	..
21. Forestry	1,705	5,947	4,242	..
22. Mines	2,388	3,531	1,143	..
23. Geological Survey ..	4,173	7,714	3,541	..

Head of Expenditure.	1919.	1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
24. Gold Coast Regiment ..	107,205	100,212	..	6,993
25. Volunteers	1,713	1,384	..	329
26. Police	65,093	93,999	28,906	..
27. Prisons	30,381	48,901	18,520	..
28. Public Cemeteries ..	1,600	2,513	913	..
28a Survey Department ..	3,314	43,334	40,020	..
29. Northern Territories				
Constabulary ..	12,967	14,258	1,291	..
30. Miscellaneous Services ..	292,600	163,182	..	129,418
31. Pensions and Gratuities	35,739	49,808	14,069	..
32. Public Debt Charges ..	143,721	262,427	118,706	..
33. Public Works Department	57,355	172,085	114,730	..
34. Public Works Annually				
Recurrent	90,651	228,874	138,223	..
35. Accra Water Works				
Maintenance	10,335	..	..	10,335
36. Seccondee Water Works				
Maintenance	6,315	..	..	6,315
37. Public Works Extra-ordinary	28,985	405,455	376,470	..
38. Railways—Capital Improvements ..	36,200	97,277	61,077	..
39. Posts and Telegraphs				
Extraordinary	1,115	27,655	26,540	..
40. Special Works	138,081	59,323	..	78,758
41. Repayment of Loans ..	..	..	..	..
42. War expenses	5,521	265	..	5,256
	1,781,170	2,856,347	1,323,054	247,877

The yearly revenue and expenditure for the period 1915 to 1920 is shown below :—

Year.						Revenue.	Expenditure.
						£	£
1915	..	..	..	..	..	1,456,130	1,627,015
1916	..	..	..	..	..	1,835,989	1,465,946
1917	..	..	..	..	..	1,624,124	1,424,279
1918	..	..	..	..	..	1,298,674	1,369,486
1919	..	..	..	..	..	2,601,360	1,781,170
1920	..	..	..	..	..	3,721,772	2,856,347

LOANS WORKS STATEMENT.

The expenditure on works, begun but not completed out of the Loans raised up to 1910, has been charged to Surplus Balances since these Loans were exhausted in 1916.

The appended statement shows particulars of this expenditure.

	Provided out of Loan Funds.	Provided out of Revenue (Surplus Funds.)	Total Expenditure to end of 1920.
	£	£	£
Seccondee-Coomassie Railway ..	1,812,556	..	1,812,556
Accra-Mangoase Railway	300,000	95,264	395,264
Tarquah-Prestea-Broomassie Railway	135,000	26,837	161,837
Accra Harbour Works	158,000	136,300	294,300
Seccondee Harbour Works	168,312	98,156	266,468
Accra Waterworks	200,000	59,212	259,212
Seccondee Waterworks	156,817	55,923	212,740
Tafo-Coomassie Railway Extension	295,928	..	295,928
Seccondee-Coomassie Railway Deviation	373,547	..	373,547
Railway Topographical Survey ..	27,792	..	27,792
Harbour Survey	25,801	..	25,801
Do. Advance account	450	..	450
	£3,654,203	£471,692	£4,125,995

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 1st January, 1920 was £1,612,087. This was increased to £2,477,512 on 31st December, 1920. The difference £865,425 is the excess of Revenue over Expenditure as shown in the table of yearly Revenue and Expenditure.

On the 1st January, 1920, the amount of the Public Debt was £3,364,118 and at 31st December, 1920, it stood at £7,344,118. A repayment of £20,000 was made to the Imperial Government during the year, but a new loan of £4,000,000 6% Inscribed stock was raised in the beginning of the year to meet the cost of the reconstruction of the existing Railways, and the construction of new Railways and Harbour Works.

The Sinking Fund for the amortization of the funded portion of the Public Debt was increased during the year by £47,068, made up of £31,630 from general revenue and £15,438 from interest on investments. The amount standing to the credit of the Fund on the 31st December, 1920, was £379,605.

Excluding the investments on account of the Sinking Fund, the investments held by Government on the 31st December, 1920, amounted to £810,097.

A Depreciation Fund has been established to cover the fall in the market value of Colony's investments, and the necessary provision was made for the first time in the *Estimates* for the first quarter of 1921.

STAMPS.

The face value of the postage stamps in the custody of the Vault Committee on the 31st December, 1920, was £7,500 as under :—

Balance on 1st January, 1920	£	515	0	0
Receipts during the year		283,238	15	0
		<hr/>		
		283,753	15	0
Issues during the year		276,253	15	0
		<hr/>		
Balance on 31st December, 1920 ..		£7,500	0	0

CURRENCY.

Silver coin to the face value of £339,721 was received from the West African Currency Board and put into circulation. Towards the end of the year increased amounts of silver were being paid into the Banks by the public. The amount of silver coin in circulation has been estimated to be approximately £5,000,000.

The introduction of a mixed metal currency was authorised in July, and it was imported during the year to the amount of £522,400. These coins are legal tender, of the same denomination, design, size, and weight as the corresponding silver coins. It has proved very useful especially for small change, and has not gone out of circulation as was found to be the case with silver.

On the 31st December, 1920, West African Currency Notes to the face value of £2,387,277 10s. 0d. were in circulation as follows :—

£5 notes	£16,500	0	0
20s. „	1,429,300	0	0
10s. „	626,232	10	0
2s. „	100,450	0	0
1s. „	214,795	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£2,387,277	10	0

During the year the unpopularity of these notes has largely disappeared and they are now readily accepted by the community.

Nickel bronze coin to the face value of £85,501 was imported during the year and the amount in circulation on the 31st December, 1920, was £123,000. The importation of this coinage at a time when the demand for silver far exceeded the supply has been fully justified.

BANKING.

The usual Government accounts at various branches of the Bank of British West Africa and the Colonial Bank were maintained during the year.

The Bank of British West Africa, which commenced business in Accra on the 1st January, 1897, has since opened branches at Axim, Secondee, Tarquah, Coomassie, Cape Coast, Saltpond, Winnebah, Bekwai, Koforidua, Nsawam, and Dunkwa, and agencies at Obuassi, Prestea, and Half Assinie.

The Colonial Bank, established in Accra on the 24th February, 1917, has now branches at Secondee, Winnebah, Coomassie, Koforidua, and Nsawam.

A Government Savings Bank conducted by the Treasury was established in 1888. The business was transferred to the Post Office in 1905, and is rapidly increasing. The amount standing to the credit of depositors on 31st December, 1920, was £52,114.

Penny banks in connection with the Post Office have also been established in the principal Government Schools.

MUNICIPAL BODIES.

Town Councils are established at Accra, Cape Coast, and Secondee. The following table shows their Revenue and Expenditure for the past six years :—

	1915.		1916.		1917.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accra ..	13,108	11,516	13,848	13,403	13,986	15,766
Secondee	5,247	5,223	5,690	5,324	5,923	5,564
Cape Coast	3,335	5,161	4,521	4,223	4,137	4,538
	1918.		1919.		1920.	
Accra ..	13,454	13,251	14,046 (a)	13,963	18,486 (d)	16,603
Secondee	6,180	6,089	5,981 (b)	6,147	8,091 (e)	8,002
Cape Coast	4,346	3,649	4,396 (c)	3,935	6,752 (f)	6,068

(a) includes grant-in-aid of £3,600 from Government.

(b) " " £1,250 " "

(c) " " £1,250 " "

(d) " " £7,000 " "

(e) " " £3,500 " "

(f) " " £4,000 " "

III.—TRADE.

IMPORTS.

The total value of all goods imported into the Colony during 1920 (excluding expenses on specie and the value of free goods imported across the inland frontiers) amounted to £15,152,145, as compared with £7,946,981 in 1919, an increase of £7,205,164 or over ninety per cent.

The following statement shows the values of Imports for 1919 and 1920.

	1919.	1920.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Ad valorem	3,242,357	6,771,012	3,528,655
Specific (other than Wines, Spirits and Malts).. .. .	1,402,657	1,699,072	296,415
do. Wines, Spirits and Malts ..	310,006	395,185	85,179
Free Goods (Commercial)	2,488,556	4,575,485	2,086,929
do. (Government Stores) ..	238,431	1,143,589	905,158
Post Parcels	264,974	567,802	302,828
	*7,946,981	*15,152,145	7,205,164

*Exclusive of Expenses on Specie.

During 1920, all the above items showed increased imports in value over 1919, the two principal heads of increase being ad valorem goods and free goods for commercial purposes. There was also a large increase in the value of goods imported by parcel post, the value of this trade rising from £264,974 in 1919 to £567,802 in 1920.

The following summary shows the import duties and revenue collected during the years 1919 and 1920, and the percentage that the revenue collected under the different heads bears to the total revenue collected.

Heads of Revenue.	Duties Collected.		Increase.	Decrease.	Per-centage 1920.
	1919.	1920.			
Specific (Other)	£ s. d. 249,477 10 10	£ s. d. 216,980 8 10	£ s. d. 38,852 17 0	£ s. d. 71,349 19 0	12.76
do. Wines, Spirits and Malts	382,639 7 3	167,303 4 6	15,076 15 6	230,412 18 3	9.84
Ad valorem	571,596 8 2	1,208,350 9 2	636,754 1 0	..	71.08
Post Parcels	48,746 2 5	107,452 4 11	58,706 2 6	..	6.32
Aggregate Receipts	1,252,459 8 8	1,700,086 7 5	749,389 16 0	301,762 17 3	100%.

In almost every principal item of Import there have been increases to some extent in quantity and to a large degree in value compared with 1919.

GOODS SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC DUTY.

The following table shows the main increases in the import of goods subject to specific duty including Wines, Spirits and Malts :—

Articles.	Denomination.	Increase in Quantity.	Increase in Duty.	Remarks.
			£	
Ale, Beer and Porter	Gallons.	73,835	7,379	
Beef and Pork ..	lbs.	763,615	261	
Bread and Biscuits	Cwts.	22,451	384	
Cement and Lime..	Cwts.	226,616	1,169	
Cordage	Cwts.	2,906	1,105	
*Flour	Cwts.	9,345	..	*Decrease £2,407
Oils—Kerosene ..	Gallons	56,112	685	
*Rice	Cwts.	56,509	..	*Decrease £672
Soap	Cwts.	27,550	4,106	
Sugar	Cwts.	27,744	277	
Spirits, Brandy ..	Gallons	8,066	6,883	
„ Gin	Gallons	42,263	34,084	
„ Whisky	Gallons	66,839	60,856	
Tobacco—Cigars ..	Numbers	930,845	933	
„ Cigarettes	Numbers	80,987,296	20,091	
Wine in bulk ..	Gallons.	73,177	7,697	

*Due to exemption from duty from July to December.

The importation of Trade Spirits was prohibited from 23rd February This accounts for the increased importations of wines, spirits and malts.

High prices were paid for produce, money was abundant and the demand for all provisions, cigars, cigarettes and soap consequently increased.

The shortage of indigenous food stuffs also contributed to the increased importation of provisions.

Decreased imports occurred in the following principal classes of goods subject to specific duty :—

Articles.	Denomination.	Decrease in Quantity.	Decrease in Duty.
			£
Spirits Gin Geneva	Gallons.	1,196	5,560
„ Rum	Gallons.	611,374	329,769
Tobacco Manufactured O.K. ..	lbs.	1,879	68
„ Unmanufactured	lbs.	1,439,577	63,449

The decrease in the importation of rum and Geneva gin, a reduction of 73% on the amount for 1919, was due to the prohibition of the importation of Trade Spirits.

Large stocks of manufactured and unmanufactured tobacco were on hand at the end of 1919, which accounts partly for the decreased importation in 1920.

GOODS SUBJECT TO AD VALOREM DUTY.

The following table shows the principal increases in the importation of goods subject to ad valorem duty. There were no decreases of statistical importance.

Articles.	Increase in Value.	Increase in Duty.
	£	£
Apparel, Wearing	246,108	43,051
Beads	75,430	13,725
Cotton Goods (Excluding Yarn and Twist) ..	1,820,715	339,775
Earthenware	50,208	7,609
Furniture	135,378	21,528
Hardware and Cutlery	344,142	56,130
Lumber	110,999	12,201
Perfumery	165,691	29,388
Provisions	392,402	448
Silk Goods	26,015	4,929

The increases in the imports of wearing apparel, cottons, earthenware, furniture, hardware, cutlery and such luxuries as perfumery and silk goods, were largely due to the high prices paid for produce and the consequently increased spending capacity of the people. Italy became again an exporting country for beads, which accounts mainly for the increased imports under that head.

Generally speaking, the increase in the volume of all these imports is not in the same proportion as the increase in value, due mostly to the continuance of high prices which showed, however, a tendency to fall before the end of the year.

GOODS FREE OF DUTY.

The following are the chief heads under which increases occurred.

Articles.	Increase in Value.
	£
Galvanised Iron Sheets	192,328
Machinery	57,688
Motor Vehicles (including Motor Cars, Lorries and Cycles)..	798,021
Cycles—Other	41,139
Railway Plant and Rolling Stock	354,235

The increased importation of motor vehicles was due to expectations of the continuance of the cocoa boom, and also to the increase in the number of roads open to motor traffic in the Colony and Ashanti. The increases under the other heads were due to the completion of orders indented for in previous years but not fulfilled until 1920, owing to causes connected with the war.

Decreases are shown under bags and sacks and cooper's stores. The former amounted to £413,549 and was accounted for by over importation of these articles in 1919. The latter amounted to £7,613 and calls for no special explanation.

SPECIE.

The following table shows the imports of Specie during the past three years.

1918.	1919.	1920.
336,284	835,062	1,010,694

EXPORTS.

The following table shows the various classes of exports for the past three years.

	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Domestic Produce and Manufactures	2,604,803	9,302,060	11,336,046
Foreign Produce and Manufactures	56,764	73,624	76,930
Bullion	1,365,000	1,403,760	889,248
Specie	446,358	34,731	49,983
Totals	4,472,925	10,814,175	12,352,207

The value of the domestic produce and manufactures exported, £11,336,046, is an increase of about 22 per cent. over the value of similar exports for 1919,

INCREASES.

The following table gives particulars of the main exports of domestic production.

Articles.	Denomination.	Increase in Quantity.	Decrease in Quantity.	Increase in Value.
				£
Cocoa	Tons.	..	51,403	1,777,744
Kola Nuts	lbs.	..	116,121	101,996
Cotton, Raw	lbs.	25,394	..	1,309
Diamonds	Carats.	102	..	365
Guinea Grains	lbs.	5,666	..	17
Gum Copal	lbs.	70,388	..	2,605
Lumber (Native Timber)	Sup : feet.	11,188,263	..	238,877
Ores, Tin	Tons	3	..	86

The percentage of export values of cocoa to those of other products of the Colony has risen from 8.02 in 1901 to 82.26 in 1920. It was responsible for the largest increase in export values during the year, the increase in value over 1919 reaching the large sum of £1,777,744, despite the fact that the exports as regards quantity were 51,403 tons less than in 1919. The exports in the latter year were 176,176 tons, but in 1920 only 124,773 tons were sent out of the Colony. The average price of the cocoa shipped during 1919 was £47 per ton, while the average price of the 1920 exports was £80 per ton which is a record. These prices are f.o.b. prices inclusive of the export duty, which amounted to £4 13s. 4d. per ton during 1920.

During the latter half of the year the market became depressed and the situation one of anxiety to producers and stock holders. As the Gold Coast produces about forty per cent. of the world's consumption of cocoa the stagnant condition of the market in this commodity affected adversely the whole trade of the Colony.

The exports of kola nuts showed a decrease of 116,121 lbs. on the 1919 Exports but an increase in value of £101,996. Ninety-nine per cent. of the exports of this commodity was consigned to Nigeria, where there is a ready market for Gold Coast kola nuts.

A company has been formed to work the diamondiferous area. So far the diamonds discovered have been small, but they are reported to be of good quality.

The exports of lumber, almost entirely mahogany, were greater by 11,188,263 superficial feet than those of the preceding year. Seventy-five per cent. was shipped to the United States where there is always a good demand for furniture woods of all kinds. Almost the whole of the balance went to the United Kingdom.

DECREASES.

The principal decreases in the exports of domestic produce are shown hereunder.

Articles.	Denomination.	Increase in Quantity.	Decrease in Quantity.	Decrease in Value.
				£
Copra	Tons.	..	557	12,530
Gold and Gold Dust	Oz.	..	129,341	514,512
Auriferous By-Product ..	lbs.	..	31,780	10,313
Ivory	lbs.	..	7,370	2,957
Ores, Manganese ..	Tons.	10,418	..	3,789
Palm Kernels ..	Tons.	..	2,229	30,780
Palm Oil	Gallons.	..	308,983	26,079
Rubber	lbs.	..	422,408	6,306

In spite of the enhanced export value of copra, palm kernels, and palm oil, the exports of these commodities decreased in quantity. The price received for cocoa was so high during the greater part of the year, that all available labour was absorbed by it to the detriment of other industries.

The exports of rubber decreased by over 58% and though no doubt this was partly due to the scarcity of labour, the great fall in the price made the industry less attractive.

The decline in exports of gold and auriferous by-products was also mainly accounted for by the shortage of labour. Exports of manganese increased in quantity but decreased in value. The increase in the quantity exported would no doubt have been greater, but for the lack of sufficient rail transport and the difficulty experienced in handling the ore at Secondee which is the port of shipment.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

The value of the external trade in 1920 was £27,518,066, which far exceeds the value for 1919, £18,746,717, which was a record.

The following table shows the trend of the aggregate external trade of the Colony for 1913, the last pre-war year and 1920, respectively.

COUNTRIES.	IMPORTS PER CENT.		EXPORTS PER CENT.		AGGREGATE TRADE PER CENT.	
	1913.	1920.	1913.	1920.	1913.	1920.
United Kingdom ..	69.99	78.05	64.77	47.48	67.26	64.32
British West Africa	5.54	.62	7.42	4.29	6.53	2.27
Other parts of the British Empire	.21	.86	..	..	.10	.48
Total British Empire	75.74	79.53	72.19	51.77	73.89	67.07
United States of America ..	5.09	14.72	1.86	20.68	3.4	17.39
France .. ..	.94	1.14	8.39	12.67	4.84	6.32
Other Foreign Countries ..	18.23	4.61	17.56	14.88	17.87	9.22
Total Foreign ..	24.26	20.47	27.81	48.23	26.11	32.93

Though the United Kingdom still appropriates the largest share of the external trade of the Colony, she has not yet regained the position she held in 1913. The United States, on the other hand, has considerably increased her trade with the Gold Coast during the period of the war and afterwards. During 1920, the principal supplies of flour, kerosene, sugar, unmanufactured tobacco, motor cars and lorries were supplied by the United States, and in the aggregate considerable supplies of manufactured articles such as hardware, railway plant and rolling stock, rice, provisions, perfumery, and unclassified articles were obtained from the same source. Most of the exports of lumber, manganese ore, and a considerable quantity of cocoa went to the United States. On the other hand it must be borne in mind that it is not always possible to obtain absolutely accurate statistics as to the countries of origin of imports and countries of final destination of exports and for that reason it is possible, for example, that a considerable proportion of the flour described as of American origin came from Canada.

PORTS.

The following table gives the values of Imports and Exports, which passed through the principal ports of the Colony during 1920 :—

PORT.	TOTAL VALUES.		Values of Imports and Exports combined.
	Imports.	Exports.	
	£	£	£
1. Accra	6,086,566	4,551,429	10,637,995
2. Secondee	5,073,869	4,716,101	9,789,970
3. Winnebah	912,068	1,236,884	2,148,952
4. Saltpond	711,386	678,067	1,389,453
5. Cape Coast	744,559	412,064	1,156,623
6. Addah	555,204	297,524	852,728
7. Quittah	267,606	60,197	327,803
8. Half Assinie	87,517	65,492	153,009
9. Axim	87,835	222,862	310,697
10. Elmina	25,633	..	25,633
11. Appam	18,750	86,669	105,419
12. Attuabo	6,081	2,556	8,637
13. Dixcove	1,822	16,960	18,782
14. Post Parcels	567,802	..	567,802
	15,146,698	12,346,805	27,493,503

SHIPPING.

The nationality, number, description and tonnage of vessels, which entered and cleared at the various Custom Houses of the Colony during 1920 are as follows :—

Nationality.	ENTERED.				TOTALS.		Percentage of total tonnage entered.
	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Nos.	Tons.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.			
British ..	318	891,755	2	1,229	320	892,984	75.06
French ..	50	130,410	..	..	50	130,410	10.96
American..	30	111,580	6	4,863	36	116,443	9.79
Danish ..	3	3,375	..	..	3	3,375	.28
Norwegian	5	6,343	..	..	5	6,343	.53
Dutch ..	27	31,760	..	..	27	31,760	2.67
Swedish ..	7	5,688	..	..	7	5,688	.48
German ..	2	2,664	..	..	2	2,664	.23
Total ..	442	1,183,575	8	6,092	450	1,189,667	100%.

Nationality.	CLEARED.				TOTALS.		Percentage of total tonnage cleared.
	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Nos.	Tons.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.			
British ..	310	873,848	1	660	311	874,508	74.83
French ..	48	126,390	..	..	48	126,390	10.82
American	30	110,745	7	4,934	37	115,679	9.9
Norwegian	6	7,892	..	..	6	7,892	.67
Danish ..	3	3,375	..	..	3	3,375	.29
German ..	2	2,664	..	..	2	2,664	.23
Swedish ..	7	5,688	..	..	7	5,688	.49
Dutch ..	27	32,391	..	..	27	32,391	2.77
Total ..	433	1,162,993	8	5,594	441	1,168,587	100%.

IV. LEGISLATION, 1920.

GOLD COAST.

During the year 1920, thirty-two Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council of which the following are of general interest :—

No. 2 of 1920.—The Treaty of Peace (Germany) Ordinance, 1920, defines and provides the requisite modifications under which the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919, shall apply to the Gold Coast Colony. The Royal Order in Council, which deals with questions connected with enemy properties, contracts debts, and the like, applies of its own force to this Colony; but it provides that in its application it shall be applied subject to such statutory modifications as the particular laws of the Colony may render necessary.

No. 12 of 1920.—The Motor Traffic Amendment Ordinance, 1920, amends section 11 of the principal Ordinance by reintroducing the principle that before a person can obtain a driving licence he must pass a satisfactory test in motor driving. Under section 7 of the Ordinance a reservation is made in favour of holders of driving licences issued under the existing law.

No. 13.—The Customs Tariff Second Further Amendment Ordinance, 1920, was passed in order to remove the duty now chargeable on certain classes of necessary foodstuffs imported into the Colony, the result of which should be a reduction in the sale prices of these foodstuffs. The strain of increased prices which every one has felt led to this measure being taken to alleviate, to some extent, that strain.

No. 15 of 1920.—The Imports and Exports Restriction Ordinance, 1920 is designedly of a temporary nature; and its purport is to empower the Governor to impose restrictions on the importation and exportation of animals and articles the importation or exportation of which the exigencies of the existing and anticipated post-war conditions render or may render dangerous or undesirable.

This Ordinance is intended to place on a regular footing the post-war exercise of the powers therein referred to which up to the present have or could have been exercised under the authority of emergency war measures.

No. 16.—The Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance, 1920, empowers the Attorney-General (the Honourable D. Kingdon) to compile a new and revised edition of the Gold Coast Laws which has become necessary, as there has been no new edition published now for over ten years. The Ordinance is in the usual form of such Ordinances and is in accordance with precedent. The last Ordinance of the Colony of similar purport was the Reprint of Statutes Ordinance, 1909, No. 16 of 1909.

No. 21.—The Post Office (Charlatanic uses) Ordinance, 1920, was passed in order to prevent the circulation of charlatanic advertisements and matter of a kind commonly met with in this Colony, and to provide for their detention and destruction by the postal authorities.

Such advertisements not infrequently induce natives to waste their money, and are also in some instances of a morally injurious nature, and it is for these reasons that it is thought desirable to repress such pernicious activities.

No. 23.—The Census Ordinance, 1920, was passed at the pleasure of His Majesty that a Census of the British Empire be taken in the year one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one. It gives Government the powers necessary for taking the Census in 1921.

No. 25.—The West African Officers Compassionate Gratuity Ordinance, 1920, was passed in order to systematise the policy of granting compassionate gratuities to the dependents of deceased native officials. Such gratuities have frequently been granted in the past, each case being judged on its merits and the practice of granting them is an increasing one. The Ordinance formulates a scheme whereby a gratuity proportionate to his length of service and final salary should become payable to the dependants of a deceased native official on his death while still in the service.

No. 26.—The Mixed Metal Currency Ordinance, 1920, extends the provisions of the Currency Offences Ordinance, 1918 (No. 39) as amended by the Currency Offences Amendment Ordinance, 1920 (No. 7) to mixed metal currency, and was passed in order to safeguard the depreciation of that coinage which has now been put into circulation.

No. 27.—The Electricity Supply Ordinance, 1920, was passed in order to make provision for the supply by private enterprise of electricity for lighting and other purposes and the general scheme of the Ordinance follows that of the Proprietary Railways Ordinance, 1907, though parts of it have been adapted from various English and other sources.

No. 31.—The Second Spirituous Liquors Ordinance repeals and re-enacts the Spirituous Liquors Ordinance No. 5 of 1920, the main purport of which was to make provision for the better effectuation with respect to this Colony of the International African Liquor Traffic Convention of the 10th September, 1919.

ASHANTI.

During the year 1920, nineteen Ordinances were enacted with respect to Ashanti. Several of these were enacted for the purpose of applying to Ashanti various Ordinances of the Gold Coast Colony.

No. 6.—The Probates (British and Colonial) Recognition Ordinance provides for the recognition in Ashanti of Probate and Letters of Administration granted in the United Kingdom or in a British Possession or Protectorate or in a British Court in a foreign country.

No. 8.—The Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance, 1920. The general purport of this Ordinance is similar to that of the Gold Coast No. 16 of 1920.

No. 19.—The Judicature Amendment Ordinance, 1920, adds a proviso to section 4 of the principal Ordinance to enable the Circuit Judge to deal with Divorce and Matrimonial Causes in Ashanti.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

During the year 1920, twelve Ordinances were enacted with respect to the Protectorate. Several of these were enacted for the purpose of applying to the Protectorate various Ordinances of the Gold Coast.

Apart from these, Ordinance No. 5 of 1920, namely the Revised Edition of the Laws of the Protectorate seems to deserve mention, the purport of which is similar to that of the Ordinances of the Gold Coast Colony and of Ashanti, No. 16 of 1920 and No. 8 of 1920 respectively.

V. AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.—This is the principal revenue producing crop of the Colony and it has been developed entirely by peasant proprietors.

The rapid growth of this industry is indicated by the following table of exports :—

<i>Average quantity exported annually (Customs figures).</i>				
1910-14	..	..	..	40,888 tons.
1913-17	..	..	..	68,769 „
1916-20	..	..	..	106,071 „

Customs returns show that 121,773 tons of cocoa were exported during the year 1920, a decrease of 51,382 tons when compared with the total for the previous year.

Of the total quantity exported in 1920, the percentage contributed by each Province is noted as follows, while comparison with similar figures for 1919 are of interest :—

	1920.	1919.
Eastern Province	44.93%	56.34%
Central „	21.53%	21.12%
Western „, (including Ashanti)	33.54%	22.54%

A further analysis of Customs figures shows that previous to 1920 the highest average value per ton was recorded in 1916, which was surpassed by the height to which the value of cocoa rose in 1920—as under :—

	1916.	1920.
Eastern Province	£54	£80
Central „	51	78
Western Province (including Ashanti) ..	51	82

The market price fluctuated considerably during the year; the steady rise which commenced in 1919 was continued into 1920, and reached its height in April at £96 10s. 0d. per ton. From that date the price moved between £81-£88 and then dropped suddenly to £45 10s. 0d., towards the end of December.

Inferior preparation of the produce is an outstanding characteristic of the industry, to which no doubt a considerable stimulus was given during the boom period, as quantity appeared to be the end in view rather than quality.

As commerce is surely, if slowly, returning to a more normal basis, there is a possibility of an improvement in the general conduct of the industry, and in the quality of the product. The extension of the system of co-operative associations throughout the Colony has been encouraged, and the formation of an Agricultural and Commercial Society, which was begun towards the end of the year, should do much to stimulate efforts in this direction amongst the peasant proprietors of the country.

Palm Products :—The palm oil and kernel industry although containing great possibilities, is one which receives diminishing attention. This no doubt is due, in part at least, to the greater attractions of the cocoa industry, in the prosecution of which less strenuous efforts are required.

Export figures show a marked decrease when compared with those of the previous year.

	1920.	1919.
Pericarp Oil ..	629,612 gallons.	938,595 gallons
Kernels	7,664 tons.	9,892 tons.

On the declared values the average price per gallon of pericarp oil has risen from 2.49 shillings in 1919 to 3.62 shillings in 1920.

The Manager of the West African Oils, Ltd., states that fruit was scarce and of poor quality, thin pericarp and low oil content.

Kola.:—This product is also obtained from an indigenous tree. There is a constant demand for the product in Northern Nigeria, and the volume and value of the exports has considerably increased during the last six years. The export figures of the sea borne portion of the Trade for that period are as follows:—

		<i>Packages.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
1915	.. ..	8,267,100	£139,163
1916	.. ..	6,742,898	130,571
1917	.. ..	11,984,645	239,134
1918	.. ..	13,254,538	262,144
1919	.. ..	16,319,972	350,249
1920	.. ..	16,203,851	452,245

The annual average of the declared value has again risen from 5.15d. in 1919, to 6.7d. per lb. for the year under review.

Coconuts.:—The total exports amounted to 427 tons valued at £17,561; this is less than half the quantity recorded for 1919.

Special steps have been taken by the Department of Agriculture to foster and stimulate the copra industry along the littoral. Towards the formation of three Communal Plantations 82,000 seed nuts were purchased and planted, while the services of coconut experts from Ceylon have been obtained to supervise the establishment of these plantations.

Rubber.:—The export figures of this product, which are the lowest on record for a considerable number of years, indicate that this industry has fallen to almost insignificant proportions.

During 1920, 299,180 lbs. were exported, a decrease of 422,378 lbs. compared with the previous year.

Food Crops.:—As in 1919, the scarcity of food crops was a conspicuous feature, and during the months from March to June became more marked than in the previous year, with the result that prices reached even higher levels. The scarcity was increased by the abnormally dry conditions which were experienced.

Horticulture.:—The distribution of plants and seedlings continues in ever increasing numbers.

Training.:—The number of teachers and students to whom instruction in agricultural matters was imparted at five Stations of the department totalled 146 for the year.

Considerable attention has been given by the Department to the development of such products as sisal, rice, ground-nuts and shea-butter, but the results of these experiments will not be forthcoming until 1921. The cocoa industry has proved so lucrative to the farmers, middlemen, and traders that little attention has been paid to the cultivation of these and other products to which conditions in the Gold Coast are particularly well adapted.

VI.—EDUCATION.

Education in the Gold Coast is chiefly in the hands of various Missionary Societies, but there are nineteen Government Schools, the largest of which are at Accra, Cape Coast, and Coomassie. With very few exceptions all the schools are primary. Preliminary operations have already been undertaken towards the establishment of a large Government Secondary School in the vicinity of Accra. Arrangements have also been made for the completion of four Government Junior Trades Schools at Kibbi, Yendi, Mampong, and Assuantsi.

The schools are very unevenly distributed the numbers being greatest in those districts where Missionary work first commenced. Thus in the Western Province, away from the coast, there are very few schools. In the Northern Territories there are only four schools, directly under the control of Government. Schools are most numerous in the Eastern Province.

The teaching staff consists entirely of Native teachers, many of whom have been trained in the Seminaries at Akropong and Abetifi, formerly under the Basel Mission and now under the Scottish Mission, and at the Accra Government Training College. The latter was established in 1909, for the purpose of training teachers for Mission as well as Government Schools; the Scottish Mission has its own Training Institutions or Seminaries. Since 1909 over 400 teachers have been trained at the Accra Government Training College for the Bremen, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan Mission, as well as Government Schools.

With the exception of a few Scottish Mission schools and two Wesleyan Girls' Schools, all the schools are day schools. Female education is very backward.

The Vernacular is used entirely in the infant classes, English and the Vernacular in the lower standards, and English mainly in the higher classes.

The number of Missionary Schools, subject to inspection by the Education Department and receiving grants-in-aid from the public funds, was 198; there are 19 Government Schools. The total number of Government and Assisted Schools was 217. Of these 28 were boys' schools, 7 girls' schools, 163 mixed schools, and 19 infants' schools.

The deportation of the Basel Missionaries was completed in 1918. The Education Department took control of their schools in February 1918; these institutions were transferred to the care of the Scottish Mission in April, 1920.

The Bremen Mission Schools were taken over by the Government, temporarily, in July, 1916, when the German Missionaries were deported. These schools are still under the control of the Education Department. The Department also exercises some supervision over the Church affairs of the Mission which fell into the hands of the Native Ministers, after the deportation of the Germans.

The following is a comparative table showing the number of Government and Assisted Schools during the year and the enrolment of pupils :—

Description of Schools	No. of Schools	Enrolment.		Total.
		Boys.	Girls.	
A. M. E. Zionist Mission	5	738	69	807
Former Bremen Mission	27	1,810	345	2,155
Church of England Mission	5	606	62	668
Government	19	3,590	660	4,250
Roman Catholic Mission	31	3,190	477	3,667
Scottish Mission (former Basel Mission)	88	6,581	2,268	8,849
Wesleyan Mission	41	7,076	1,033	8,109
Secondary (S. P. G. Grammar School)	1	75	—	75
Total	217	23,666	4,914	28,580

The total number of pupils enrolled upon the registers of all Government and Assisted Schools during the year 1920, was 28,580, an increase of 1,262 as compared with 1919. The average attendance during 1920 shows an increase of 1,234.

The grants-in-aid paid to schools, exclusive of salaries of teachers under the former Bremen Mission, amounted to £23,290.

The total expenditure by the Government on Education in 1920 amounted to £57,544, a decrease of £172 as compared with 1919.

There were 96 students in residence during the year at the Government Training College for Teachers at Accra. 83 students were in training at the Akropong Scottish Mission Seminary. At the Government Technical School, Accra, 54 pupils were in residence.

In March, 1920, a Commission was appointed by the Governor to survey the whole field of educational activities and make recommendations thereon. A very exhaustive report was submitted and the reorganisation of the Education Department according to the principles laid down in the report has begun.

VII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

During the year 2,898 Europeans and 55,687 Natives were treated in the Hospitals and Dispensaries of the Colony as compared with 2,038 and 56,267 respectively in the previous year.

The number of patients admitted into the Accra Lunatic Asylum during the year was 41 males and 15 females. The number discharged was 12 males and 5 females. The daily average number of inmates was 132.27 as compared with 127.3 in 1919. There were 33 deaths—29 males and 4 females.

VIII.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

The authorized establishment of the Police Force of all ranks on the 31st of December, 1920, was 1,449 made up as follows :—

General Police	..	..	..	..	373
Escort Police	..	..	..	..	780
Railway Police	..	..	..	..	97
Marine Police	..	..	..	..	34
Recruits	..	..	..	..	60
Disciplinary Staff, etc.	..	..	..	..	60
Band..	..	..	..	..	45
					<hr/> 1,449 <hr/>

This is an increase of 63 over the establishment for 1919.

This force is distributed in the Colony and Ashanti (separate provision being made for the policing of the Northern Territories by means of the Northern Territories Constabulary, as to which information is contained in the annual report on the Northern Territories).

The total number of recruits enlisted in 1920 was 342 as compared with 408 in 1919, and the casualties from death, desertion, discharge, resignation and dismissals amounted to 105 as against 72 in 1919.

Government specie was escorted during the year as usual ; £254 was realised in commissions for the escorting of private specie as compared with £280 in 1919.

The Police dealt with 13,151 cases of crime during the year under review, a decrease of 548 as compared with the previous year.

The decrease in Crime is accounted for by the fact that the number of petty offences was considerably lower than in 1919.

Murder shows a decrease.

On the other hand there are increases in the serious crimes of wounding, burglary, and larceny.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £93,998 15s. 1d. as compared with £65,092 12s. 8d. in 1919. The amount paid in gratuities on discharge was £1,000 16s. 10d. as compared with £1,323 18s. 11d. in 1919.

With the exception of the increases of pay to the native ranks and the separation of the Police and Prisons Departments, no recommendations of the Police Committee have come into force. The Secretary of State has not yet approved of the remainder of the Commission's proposals.

New ranks of Assistant Superintendent of Police and 1st Class Constable came into being and afford a further grade for promotion.

In the New Year's Honours Mr. Bettington, the Inspector-General, was awarded the King's Police Medal, and Sergeant James Kofi of the General Police was awarded the African Police Medal.

Marine Police were established at Secondee.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of convictions in the Superior Courts of the Colony during 1919 and 1920 was as follows :—

			1919	1920
Offences against the person	..	..	34	104
Slave dealing	..	..	..	..
Offences against property	..	..	45	48
Other offences	..	..	25	11
			<hr/> 104	<hr/> 163

There were 21 acquittals in 1920, as compared with 100 in 1919.

The number of summary convictions in 1919 and 1920, was as follows :—

			1919	1920
Offences against the person	..	..	1,947	1,710
Slave dealing	..	..	7	..
Offences against property	..	..	2,064	2,188
Other Offences	..	..	4,960	6,736
			<hr/> 8,978	<hr/> 10,634

There were 2,612 acquittals as compared with 2,946 in 1919.

CIVIL ACTIONS.

There were 467 civil actions brought in the Divisional Courts of the Colony during 1920, as compared with 415 in 1919, and 395 in 1918.

Court fees and fines collected during 1920, amounted to £4,475 14s. 11d., as compared with £5,469 5s. 8d. in 1919.

The number of writs of Fi : Fa : issued by the Courts for execution during the year was 163 involving an amount of £35,094 11s. 3d., of which £5,583 15s. 0d. was collected. In 1919, these figures were 263 writs of Fi : Fa : issued involving an amount of £17,632 9s. 2d., of which £6,329 1s. 5d. was collected. The number of writs of Ca : Sa : issued during 1920 was 685 involving an amount of £27,817 0s. 3d. whereof a sum of £8,664 16s. 10d. was collected.

PRISONS.

The following remarks and statistics refer to prisons in the Colony and Ashanti (information as to Prisons in the Northern Territories being contained in the annual report on the Northern Territories).

Early in 1920, the separation of Police and Prisons took effect, on the appointment of an I. G. and Deputy I. G. Prisons, who took over the duties formerly assigned to the I. G. and Deputy I. G. Police. The staff consisted of seven European Officers, and five Prison Superintendents (formerly styled European gaolers), one West Indian Gaoler, and 259 native warders of different grades on the permanent establishment, with about 100 to 120 temporary warders.

In the Colony there are two central prisons at Accra and Secondee in which long-sentence convicts are confined. At Cape Coast Prison a few long-sentence prisoners, are confined from time to time. All other gaols in the Colony are purely local prisons for prisoners whose sentences do not exceed six months, and are at present established at nearly all district headquarters.

In Ashanti, Coomassie has a central prison for the accommodation of long-sentence, as well as short-sentence convicts, but dangerous criminals and prisoners with very long sentences are invariably transferred to Secondee. At Obuassie there is a local prison of some importance ; while there are small gaols, mostly temporary structures for the accommodation of short-sentence prisoners at five other district headquarters in Ashanti.

The daily average number of inmates at the four central prisons in the Colony and Ashanti, as compared with the figures in 1919, were as follows :—

				1919	1920
Accra	..	..	..	317	354
Secondee (Central Prison)	..			358	367
Cape Coast	..	..	..	86	92
Coomassie	..	..	..	155	140

The number shewn opposite Secondee (Central Prison) were all long-sentence convicts; short-sentence convicts at Secondee are accommodated in Fort Orange. Of those shewn opposite Accra some 76 on the average were long-sentence prisoners; the majority of the inmates at Cape Coast and Coomassie were short-sentence convicts. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes at the four central and 16 local prisons was males 1,575 females 18, total 1,592.

A scheme for the reorganisation of the Prisons Department was submitted by the I. G. Prisons in June, 1920, the main features of which were abolition of bush prisons and concentration at important stations, the building of new central prisons at Coomassie and Koforidua, and the division of the warder staff into literate and illiterate branches. This scheme was still under consideration at the close of the year. Meanwhile, however, approval was obtained for a scheme of converting Ussher Fort, Accra, into a small industrial prison for long-sentence convicts—thus alleviating the situation somewhat as regards prison accommodation, which has been inadequate for many years past. The total number of persons committed to prison during 1920 was 6,047, a decrease of 520 as compared with 1919. The committals during 1920, included 148 females and 75 juveniles. Of the total committals 65 per cent. were for purposes of penal imprisonment, 6 per cent. were for debt, and the remaining 29 per cent. were for safekeeping pending trial.

There were two executions at Accra and five at Secondee, a total of seven as compared with ten in 1919.

There were 61 escapes and 25 recaptures as compared with 72 and 38 respectively in 1919.

The number of deaths was 63, as against 45 in 1919, and the daily average on the sick list was 4 per cent. which was also rather higher than in 1919.

The cost of the department during the period under review was £47,177 as compared with £30,381 for 1919. The average cost of each prisoner was £29 12s. 8d., an increase of about £10 as compared with 1919, which is accounted for by the increase of staff, salaries, and prices of foodstuffs. Rations cost £13,420 being an increase of £4,278 over the cost in 1919.

In connection with the building at Ussher Fort, prisoners were employed on cement block-making. This is a new form of prison labour in the Gold Coast and was later extended to public works at Secondee. Preparations were also made for employing prisoners as masons at Ussher Fort.

Long-sentence prisoners, more particularly at Accra and Secondee, were generally employed intramurally, in such skilled trades as tailoring, bootmaking and repairing, and carpentry; short-sentence prisoners were mostly employed extramurally, on sanitary work, roadmaking, weeding and cleaning the precincts of public buildings. Labour is supplied free to the Sanitary and Public Works departments, while the tailors' shops at Accra and Secondee prisons make uniform for the police as well as for the prison staff.

The actual cash earnings were £4,207 as compared with £3,066 in the previous year, shewing an increase of £1,141. This increase was chiefly due to developments in the tailoring and shoemaking departments, for whose services there is an ever-increasing demand amongst private individuals at Accra and Secondee.

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

At the Census taken in 1911, the population of the Gold Coast and Dependencies was 1,503,386.

The number of Europeans resident in the Colony during 1920 was 2,818.

	1919.	1920.
Officials	653	775
Mercantile	1,902	1,506
Mining	561	465
Missionary	66	72
Total ..	3,182	2,818

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The number of births and deaths registered during the years 1919 and 1920 was :—

	1919.		1920.	
	Europeans.	Natives.	Europeans.	Natives.
Births	—	1,927	1	2,074
Deaths	26	2,498	32	3,195
Still births	—	102	..	95

A summary of the principal causes of deaths at all ages shews that 19% was due to intestinal diseases, the second in importance being the pneumonia group, which accounted for over 14%.

Six per cent. of the deaths were due to Tuberculosis (including Phthisis).

An analysis of the death and invaliding statistics of the European population is appended :—

1920.	Number of Residents.	Deaths.	Invalided.	Death Rate per 1,000.	Invaliding Rate per 1,000.
Officials	775	7	30	9.03	38.71
Merchants	1,506	20	47	13.28	31.20
Mining Companies	465	4	19	8.60	40.86
Missionaries	72	1	..	13.88	..
Totals ..	2,818	32	96	11.35	34.06

The death rate amongst Europeans resident in the Colony during 1920 was 11.35 per 1000 as compared with 8.8 in 1919. The invaliding rates per 1000 for the same periods were 34.06 and 23.27 respectively.

Of the seven deaths which occurred amongst European officials in the Colony and its dependencies in 1920, three were due to blackwater fever, two to paratyphoid fever, one to malaria and one to bronchitis.

Of the twenty-five deaths of European Non-Officials, seven were due to blackwater fever, one to malaria, one to nephritis, one to yellow fever, one to dysentery, one to enteritis, two to broncho-pneumonia, one to cirrhosis of liver, one to internal hæmorrhage, two to intestinal obstruction, three to heart disease, one to alcoholic poisoning, one to paralysis, one to paratyphoid fever, and one to Cellulitis.

Six European Non-officials were invalided with blackwater fever, 15 with malaria.

The average daily number of European Officials on the sick list compared to the average daily number resident in the Colony was 2.19 per cent. as compared with 1.69 per cent. in 1919 and 3.97 per cent. in 1918.

Treatment was given in 4,705 cases of malaria, 824 cases of dysentery, 3 cases of yellow fever, 422 cases of pneumonia, 355 cases of tuberculosis and a large number of cases of minor complaints.

27 cases of sleeping sickness were treated during the year. Of 36 cases of blackwater fever treated seven proved fatal, and of three cases of yellow fever, one resulted in death.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

As Registration is not general all over the Colony, no accurate statement of the infant mortality can be given.

The table below is for Accra.

	1919.	1920.
Number of births registered	709	714
Number of deaths under one year	255	289
Percentage of total deaths at all ages ..	28%	22%
Deaths under one year per 1000 births ..	359.6	405

SANITATION.

The usual routine measures of sanitation were carried out in a satisfactory manner.

There were 8,367 prosecutions for nuisances and under the Mosquito Ordinance, during the year. 7,746 persons were convicted and the fines amounted to £3,673.

The special feature of the year was a severe outbreak of small-pox in Accra and surrounding villages. There were 70 deaths.

76,897 vaccinations were performed during the year, of which 69,253 were successful.

The method of purification by excess lime adopted for the Accra Water supply gave satisfactory results as shown by bacteriological tests of the water leaving the final filters.

In Secondee experiments were still being carried out in order to discover the most satisfactory method of purifying the water supply.

CLIMATE.

The climate, though hot and damp, is cooler than that of most tropical countries situated in the same latitude.

It is not in itself unhealthy; but an evil reputation has been earned for it in the past by the prevalence of mosquito-borne diseases, against which all possible precautions have constantly to be taken. The Gold Coast is peculiarly free from many of the discomforts associated with tropical countries; hot nights and intense heat by day are the exception rather than the rule, while insects are comparatively unobtrusive.

The efforts of the Medical and Sanitary authorities in promoting the treatment of disease and the knowledge of general hygiene, continue to exercise a beneficial effect on the general health of Europeans.

The rainfall varies with the configuration of the country and is highest in the mining districts of Tarquah, Upper and Lower Wassaw, etc. and also at Axim. The first rains, or rainy season proper, begin in March and end in July; the later rains are spread over the months of September and October. The rainy season is marked by a considerable fall in the temperature, which is found to be refreshing to many Europeans, but proves trying to some. The Harmattan season begins in December and ends in February.

METEOROLOGY.

The rainfall during the year was well below the mean of the previous three years.

RAINFALL IN INCHES.

Station.					1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Accra	..	..	..	..	44.20	32.37	20.44	15.87
Aburi	..	..	..	..	73.16	42.24	34.54	36.40
Cape Coast	..	..	..	..	56.25	35.30	29.19	31.13
Secondee	..	..	..	..	56.76	34.53	38.25	34.65
Axim	..	..	..	..	94.50	47.64	56.05	66.43
Tarquah	..	..	..	..	92.62	53.80	59.36	68.19
Coomassie	..	..	..	..	71.40	58.64	37.08	50.98
Tamale	..	..	..	..	35.76	44.45	38.61	36.95

At Accra the mean shade temperature for the year was 80.48°F.

At Coomassie and Secondee the mean shade temperature was 79.00°F. and 81.22°F. respectively, as compared with 79.83 and 80.49 in 1919.

The mean daily range of temperature at Accra was 11.32°F.

X. POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The business dealt with by the Department during the year, as compared with the previous year, was as follows :—

	1919.	1920
	£	£
Sale of stamps for postal purposes	17,556	22,563
Number of letters and postcards received and despatched ..	4,476,684	5,273,684
Registered packets	501,192	521,820
Book Packets	740,732	1,330,812
Parcels	89,852	153,907
Money Orders (value)	173,477	167,046
Postal Orders (value)	186,437	214,849
Postal Orders (Number)	256,214	291,724
Inland Telegrams, Private ..	290,218	344,930
Inland Telegrams, Official ..	95,143	115,877

There were 121 offices in the Colony, Ashanti and the Northern Territories open at the end of the year, of which 79 were Postal Agencies.

The total amount of traffic dealt with shows an increase, which is in conformity with the increase in general trade of the Colony in the first part of 1920, as compared with the previous year.

The business transacted by the Post Office Savings Bank shews a decrease caused by the prevailing depression in trade during the latter part of the year. The deposits made during the year were 6,777 in number, a decrease of 3,542, the total value amounting to £31,528 shews a decrease of £10,458 as compared with 1919.

The number of withdrawals was 3,995 value £35,078 shewing a decrease of 939 in number and £5,808 in value. The average value of each deposit was £1 13s. 1d. as against £4 1s. 5d. in 1919, and of each withdrawal £8 15s. 7d. as against £8 4s. 9d. The amount standing to the credit of 6,043 depositors on 31st December, 1920, was £52,114, representing an increase of 237 in the number of depositors as compared with the position on 31st December, 1919, and a decrease of £2,323 in amount.

The number of telegrams transmitted in 1920, shews an increase both as regards official messages (increase 21.79 per cent.) and as regards unofficial messages (increase 19 per cent.) over the number transmitted in 1919.

The total number of Telegraph Offices open to the public in the Colony Ashanti and the Northern Territories at the end of the year was 63, and the length of wire maintained during the year was approximately 2,767 miles. Tornadoes and tree felling occasioned minor interruptions in the lines.

Cable traffic for 1920, shewed a substantial increase over the return for the previous year.

The total number of private messages received and transmitted by wireless station at Accra was 1,382, an increase of over 100%.

The Telephone Systems at Accra, Secondee, Tarquah, and Dodowah, and Aburi were maintained throughout the year, as also were the trunk lines connecting Accra-Nsawam-Mangoase-Koforidua-Aburi-Dodowah, Quittah-Danoe-Lome, Addah-Akuse-Somanya, and Saltpond-Anamaboe. There was a total of 338 telephones in use, of which 130 were in the hands of private subscribers.

Large extensions of the telephone system were sanctioned and are now being carried out.

XI.—RAILWAYS.

The total length of line open for traffic at the end of 1920 was 269 miles.

There are two main railway lines, one from the port of Secondee to Coomassie, a distance of 168 miles, and the other from Accra to Tafo, a distance of 65 miles. The Secondee-Coomassie railway has a branch line 18 miles in length from Tarquah to Prestea and from Ancobra Junction (one mile from Prestea) to Broomassie, a distance of one mile. These branches were built for the development of the gold-mining industry, while a short branch has recently been laid to Insuta near Tarquah for the development of the manganese industry. Another branch connects the main line with the Inchaban Water Works near Secondee.

The total capital expenditure on the 31st December, 1920 stood at £4,197,991.

The gross revenue for the year amounted to £737,262 an increase of £64,951 as compared with the gross revenue for 1919; the expenditure incurred to earn the revenue was £365,309 an increase of £131,079 over 1919; the net revenue was £371,953 a decrease of £66,128 over 1919.

The general financial result is as follows:—

Interest on Capital (at the average rate of 3½% on loan prior to 1920 and 6% on the loan of January, 1920)	..	..	..	£164,017
Net Receipts	..	..	..	371,953
Surplus	..	..	..	<u>£207,936</u>

At Coomassie great difficulty was experienced in obtaining labour for construction works.

Only 450 were recruited from Ashanti and they showed little aptitude for the work required. Arrangements were made to obtain labourers from the Northern Territories, indentured for service for six months, but these did not arrive until July. Progress has therefore been slower than was anticipated. A distance of 23 miles of the right of way was cleared and earth works were completed for a distance of about 21 miles. The main line has been laid for a distance of 7 miles including half a mile of sidings at Coomassie. Some very heavy earth works have been completed at Coomassie for the sidings, goods yards, deviation of the East Suben, and for the approaches and new overhead road and bridge for the Ejesu Road.

On the Tafo side the necessary staff was not available and work did not commence until April. There was no indentured labour on this section and the communal labour, though not at first satisfactory, was later on of great assistance. Voluntary contractors applied for work and labourers came over from Togoland and Nigeria. At the end of the year 11 miles of track had been laid and over 20 miles of the line were in progress.

On the Deviation construction work on the Secondee line labour was not available until June, when indentured labour from the Northern Territories was introduced. Local labour could not be obtained on any terms. The five-mile deviation at Abosso was opened to traffic in November, and by the end of the year, all the earth works had been completed to Essuasu and the culverts to Angu. The proposed deviation at Tarquah, which would have saved almost two miles in length, with greatly improved grades and curves, was abandoned in favour of an alternative location, as it involved moving the existing Tarquah station.

The number of passengers conveyed during the year was 1,334,286 an increase of 110,690 over 1919. The increase in Coaching Revenue was £31,509 over 1919, which was the record year by £44,944. The most of this increase was due to increased traffic on the Secondee line in all classes and at all stations except three. On the Accra line there was an increase in all classes, except the third, which was due to the restrictions rendered necessary by the small-pox epidemic.

The total tonnage carried during 1920 was 372,036 an increase of 23,592 tons as compared with 1919. The tonnage carried on the Secondee line 273,000 tons, is the highest ever handled on that line by 23,000 tons. The only decreases were in kerosene, kola, mining machinery, native produce and salt. Even cocoa showed an increase. On the Accra line, however, there was a decrease of 16,700 tons. The decrease in cocoa alone amounted to 20,800 tons, but the total decrease was reduced by the increase in the amount of imported commodities carried.

ACCRA HARBOUR.

The Accra Harbour Works were handed over to the Railway Department August, 1920.

The Accra Harbour consists of a breakwater about one thousand four hundred feet long running out obliquely from the shore, sheltering an area of nearly ten acres.

Within the sheltered area a wharf and jetty have been erected ; but both have been left high and dry owing to the heavy influx of sand which coincided with the progress of the breakwater. As some compensation there has been formed a valuable reclamation area, upon which considerably more tonnage is handled than at any other port in the Colony.

The jetty and wharf have now been dismantled and a new jetty has been re-erected on a new site in deep water, thereby considerably increasing the area available for handling surf boat borne cargo, and providing also facilities for handling lighter traffic up to ten-ton lifts. A new layout of the shore area including the provision of large warehouses and a new Port Office has also been prepared for early execution.

SECONDEE HARBOUR.

The Secondee Harbour Works were taken over by the Railway Department in August.

The Secondee Harbour is composed of a single breakwater forming a prolongation of a natural reef. It is nine hundred and seventy-six feet long built of fifteen-ton concrete blocks on a closely set random block work foundation.

It is thirteen feet six inches above low water and protected by a parapet seven feet further height. In heavy water the surf strikes the breakwater at an angle of about forty-five degrees and is reflected without breaking.

The sheltered area amounts to about twenty acres, of a depth ranging from fourteen to five feet when completed.

Obviously this can only accommodate lighter and surf boat traffic. This is handled by means of four steel pile jetties averaging two hundred and seventy feet in length equipped with power cranes of three tons capacity although a twenty-ton crane is obtainable at short notice.

There are two twin slipways for the accommodation of lighters up to seventy-five tons in weight.

Lifts up to fifteen tons are immediately dealt with at the breakwater barge berth.

A retaining wall nearly four hundred feet long has been built along the foreshore between jetties III and IV, which forms on its face a flight of steps thus facilitating the easy landing of head borne traffic from surf boats which can moor close together to the wall and swell thus occupying a minimum amount of space.

A somewhat steeper and shorter wall of similar construction lies between jetties Nos. I and II.

To the north of jetty No. I. there is a quay wall one thousand feet long for the shipping of mahogany logs which are brought down from the interior to be stacked, tipped into the sea and towed to the ship when freight is available.

An area of four acres has been reclaimed for the erection of Customs sheds which as yet has been only partially utilized.

There is thirty feet of water under two thousand feet from the breakwater so that traffic can be expeditiously handled from ship to shore, but further warehouse accommodation is urgently required.

PROPOSED DEEP WATER HARBOUR.

A Survey Party of Engineers arrived on the Coast during the year and a Report was submitted in September containing certain recommendations, the most important of which was that the site immediately to the north of the Reef at Takoradi was the most suitable for the construction of a Deep Water Harbour.

XII. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INCLUDING TRANSPORT.

The approximate expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary during the year on new works and other items was £397,713, an increase of £371,028 over the expenditure under this head for 1919. This is accounted for by the reduction of Extraordinary Works in 1919 to the absolute minimum, owing to the fact that when the Estimates were framed the War was still proceeding and the utmost economy was necessary. The period of 1919 was one of reconstruction, re-organisation and the inception of new Schemes, and it was only towards the end of that year that the augmented staff of Engineers and Foremen began to arrive.

In the year 1920, works of great magnitude were undertaken, such as the commencement of the new Native Hospital, and of the Public Works new Workshops, Accra, new and more commodious Post Offices at Nsawam, Koforidua, Coomassie, Quittah, and Soadru, the commencement of new Hospitals at Koforidua and Winnebah, and bungalow and office accommodation for the largely increased staffs of all departments. An extensive programme of road construction was begun with the object of completing the Accra-Seccondee Coastal Road and its extension towards Axim, the opening up of the Western Frontier District by the road from Dunkwa towards Wioso, the opening up of the Northern Territories by the extension of the road from Attabubu to Yeji, Tamale and Gambaga, the provision of a motorable road from the Colony to Ho, the Headquarters of the Mandated Sphere of Togoland, and the development of all roads generally in the Eastern and Central Provinces of the Colony.

Expenditure on Sanitary Works also increased and investigations of the possible sources of water supply for certain of the large towns were undertaken by a special Staff.

The inauguration of a Government Mechanical Transport Service entailed large expenditure on new cars and lorries.

Expenditure under Public Works annually recurrent which includes amongst other items, the upkeep of all Government Buildings, increased from £77,321 (Blue Book figures) to £207,310, an increase of £129,989. The cost of maintenance of the Accra and Seccondee Water Works is included in these figures.

This increase is due to several causes, of which the more important are the higher cost of materials, the arrears of repairs and maintenance which could not be undertaken during the War, the expansion of all Government Departments, the increased mileage of roads to be maintained, and the very large amounts necessary for the maintenance and upkeep of the Mechanical Transport Service.

The excess lime treatment at Accra Water Works has been continued and the aluminium sulphate treatment has been in constant use at Seccondee, in each case with very good results.

ROADS.

In the Colony the main roads are constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department.

The mileage of these roads was increased during 1920 from 428 miles, by 88 miles to 516 miles. Of these 502 miles were suitable for motor traffic.

This mileage was made up as follows :—

Eastern Province 199 miles, Central Province 231 miles, Western Province 86 miles.

154 miles of roads were under construction in the Eastern Province and the mandated portion of Togoland.

In Ashanti the mileage of roads under the Public Works Department is 202 miles, of which 117 are open for motor traffic all the year round, and the remaining 85, between Ejura and Yeji, (which should be considered as still under construction) for the greater part of the year.

Pioneer roads in Ashanti, constructed by communal labour under Political Officers with the assistance in certain cases of the Public Works Department, total 234 miles. Of these ten miles are open for motor traffic all the year, 151 for the greater part of the year, and 73 during the dry season only.

In the Northern Territories the mileage of roads under the Public Works Department is 99 miles, between Yeji and Tamale, but this road must still be considered as under construction although open for motor traffic for the greater part of the year.

Pioneer roadwork was undertaken on the 92 miles of road between Tamale and Gambaga, which has made it fit for motor traffic during the dry season.

The Coastal road was maintained; the section between Seccondee and Beposo on the River Prah was almost completed, and the regrading of the section between Ajumako and Soadru was in hand at the end of the year. Work on the Seccondee-Axim section made good progress. The road has been laid from Seccondee to the Butre River ($17\frac{1}{2}$ miles), but the bridges and culverts have still to be put in.

The Dunkwa-Wioso road was constructed as far as Domenase (19 miles), but here also bridges and culverts have still to be put in.

In the Mandated portion of Togoland the reconstruction of the roads from Senkye through Frankadua to Ho and from Adidome to Ho was begun and good progress was made.

In addition to roads directly under the Public Works Department there are about 2,300 miles of secondary roads, over a considerable portion of which, under favourable conditions, light motor traffic is possible. These roads are under the control and supervision of the Political Officers and are maintained by the Chiefs under the Roads Ordinance.

Assistance in the construction of bridges and culverts is rendered when possible by the Public Works Department.

XIII.—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

During the first five months of the year the Geological Survey party examined various portions of Northern Ashanti, and the eastern portion of the Northern Territories, along the main stock road from Gambaga through Tamale to Coomassie, in that portion extending from Savelugu to Ejura, and for varying distances to upwards of 30 miles on each side of that road.

The object of this work was to ascertain the mode of occurrence and general character of the supply of water for domestic and stock purposes.

During the dry season and part of the tornado season, from November to April, the Volta and the Puru are the only flowing streams in this country. Numbers of the other streams consist of small or large pools of water, but most of these are distant from the main road and from most of the villages, so cannot be conveniently utilized. The remainder of the streams are dry during all or most of that period. The main sources of supply are the small holes, or wells, sunk through the thin cap of sand, sandy clay and pisolite-cement (so-called laterite) to the underlying clay-shales, sandy shales and sandstones, that occur throughout this country. The subsidiary supply is obtained from the pools in the channels of the annual streams.

At the sources of these streams there are numbers of shallow depressions containing water at varying depths to bed rock, usually from five to 20 feet below the surface. Near the villages holes are sunk in these depressions, and water obtained therefrom. In the early part of the dry season water can be found close to the surface in them, but, as the season advances, the water-table is continuously lowered by the steady gravitation of water over the down-sloping surfaces of the underlying shales or sandstones. During

this period the holes are from time to time deepened to bed-rock. In some places a small supply is obtained by sinking a few feet deeper into it, but in most cases the holes become dry, and old wells, lower down the courses of the depressions, have to be drawn upon, or new ones sunk.

The country may be divided geologically into five groups, where the superficial deposits consist of :—

1. Sand or clayey sand, lying directly on sand-stones or sandy shales, and in a subordinate degree on clay-shales.
2. Sand or sandy clay, resting on a sub-stratum of pisolite-cement which overlies clay-shales.
3. Pisolite-gravel and pisolite-cement, lying on clay of disintegrating clay-shale, and derived directly from it by small concretions formed around nuclei, with their subsequent cementation by oxide of iron.
4. Pebbly gravels and conglomerates, in flat areas or depressions, with underlying clay-shales or sandstones.
5. Sandy clay overlying clay-shales.

In the first group there are numbers of weak springs, for the bed-rock of sandstone absorbs large quantities of rainwater that has been held by the covering sand, and has percolated slowly downwards into it. An example of this is the country to the east of Attabubu.

In the second group the cap of sand prevents a great loss of water by surface flowage, and allows it to percolate to the more retentive pisolite-cement underlying, where it is stored temporarily while infiltrating slowly to the clay-shale beneath. This type of country has the best supply of shallow underground water, and, where the catchment areas are extensive, the wells sunk therein are permanent ones. Parts of the Salaga and Tamale districts are examples.

In the third group the supply of water is practically permanent, where the pisolite-cement is of considerable thickness—10 to 20 feet. A good example of this type is at Salaga, where there are great numbers of wells on the plain on which stands the town.

In the fourth group may be cited the pebbly gravels which occur along the fringes of the older courses of the larger streams, and the conglomerates of part of the country between Tamale and the Daka River, where these deposits occupy old channels or depressions, but not slopes of rises and ridges. Makongo, between the Volta River and Salaga, and parts of the San district are examples of this type.

The fifth group of sandy clay on clay-shale has the least supply of water. This is due to the low absorptive character of the rock, and its occurrence at the surface or close to it. Nearly the whole of the water that falls as rain flows away quickly. In this country, however, with its clay-shales, flat-bottomed or dipping at low angles, the holes sunk in it form very good storage wells. With their own material, crushed and puddled, joint-planes of percolation

channels can be effectively sealed against serious loss by leakage, and practically impervious cisterns made. Examples of this type are the strip from near Makongo to beyond Zongo Merichi, and the Turu district, between Salaga and Tamale.

While at present the country depends for its dry-season water-supply on the type of conservation mentioned, this supply can be enormously augmented by the construction of dams in suitable places. Several of such were found along the main stock route. The expense of building these dams in narrow gullies need not be great. Blocks of pisolite-cement can be easily and cheaply quarried, roughly dressed and laid with puddled sandy clay to form the main body of the dam. Layers of similar clay can be interleaved with the pisolite-cement blocks, and, if desired, the dam can be strengthened by a thin breast of lime-cement. The bye-passes for flood waters can be paved with blocks of pisolite-cement. The alternate wetting and drying of the surface of the dam affords a continually and rapidly increasing natural cement, through the deposition of oxide of iron formed by the evaporation of water containing it in solution. The loss of water by evaporation from the surface of the dam can be reduced to a minimum by the introduction of the indigenous plant called the "water-cabbage." This plant flourishes in both flowing and still water. It grows remarkably quickly, and forms an almost effective shield against loss by evaporation.

Further, the available supply of shallow underground water can be greatly increased by additional wells sunk in numerous depressions over almost the whole of the country. There is undoubtedly a great quantity of water obtainable by this means. The wells sunk, however, must be preserved everywhere from collapse by supports of stone or wood for their sides. In most places blocks of pisolite-cement can be cheaply used for this purpose and would be permanent, whereas wooden supports would have to be constantly renewed, owing to the ravages of white ants above the water-line, and rot below it.

Specially interesting features of the pisolite-cement area in the Northern Territories are the numbers of old wells made by the aborigines, or the people who occupied the country before the present occupants, the Gonjas. Most of these wells have disappeared from view long since by being completely filled with mud and sand. A few, however, were found, and some of them are still in use by the Gonjas; but, though the people almost invariably use them, they rarely clean them, even partially, and thus neglect to ensure a good supply of water during the long dry season.

These wells may be seen (1) in the cement beds of annual streams, or, (2) on pisolite-cement plains, or, (3) in wide grassy depressions. Those in the first group must have needed frequent cleaning to be of much use, but the process of filling those in the other groups must have been more gradual, especially so in the last, for the low gradient and the thick covering of grass prevents the transport of sand, and allows only fine mud to settle in them.

The wells consist of circular holes, from 15 inches to 3 feet in diameter, made through the cap of pisolite-cement, which varies from 2 feet to upwards of 6 feet in thickness. From beneath it the clay from the disintegrating shale, and the shale itself have been excavated, leaving caverns from 2 to 5 feet high and up to 15 or 20 feet in diameter, capable of storing many thousands of gallons of water. As, however, in such material the walls collapse as soon as the water rises to the level of the disintegrating shales, there would be immediate serious reduction in the capacity of the wells if the walls were unsupported. This could be prevented by facing them with blocks of pisolite-cement from the floor to the roof. These unsupported roofs of cement are very strong and almost flat. It should be noted that during the greater part of the dry season, if not the whole of it, the water going into the holes by infiltration would supply all the native requirements, while their use as cisterns to hold several thousand gallons after infiltration from the overlying stratum of pisolite-cement had ceased would still be effective.

The water throughout the country in question is fresh and good in its natural state, but is polluted in the wells owing to the carelessness of the natives. It is usually clear, though in some cases it has a pale milky colour due to very fine clay in suspension.

During the last two months of the year the party was engaged in the Western, Central and Eastern Provinces. Occurrences of manganese ore of low grade were noted in the district to the north of Secondee.

A few small diamonds were found in the lower Birrim valley in several tributaries of the Birrim River between Nsuaem and Kade. These stones, though small, are of good quality, and similar to those at Abomoso, which is some 30 miles to the north-east of Nsuaem. It is highly probable that the gravels of the lower Birrim valley are diamondiferous to the confluence of that stream with the Pra River.

Near Kwamang in the Akropong districts, Eastern Akim, an interesting occurrence of gold was examined. This is in the bed of a tributary of the Merepong Su. At this place parallel threads and veinlets of quartz, with thin lines of pyrite occur in pale and dark bluish grey slates. So far as could be seen the gold has been derived from the decay of the pyrite, as it does not seem to be associated with the quartz. The indications do not suggest that the occurrence is of any special economic value.

XIV.—SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The Survey Department was re-opened during the latter part of 1919. By the beginning of 1920 practically no staff had been obtained owing to various difficulties, and little work was done until the personnel began to arrive from England in October.

The staff then available was incomplete in several important particulars, particularly as regards European draughtsmen, as no trained native draughtsmen were obtainable.

During the period January to September, one Town Survey was completed and one begun, minor railway Reconnaissance Surveys for Deviations on the Secondee-Coomassie Railway were carried out, and three Concession Surveys

completed. No topographical work was done, but a useful triangulation of Accra Town was made, and some theodolite traverse carried out north of Coomassie.

On the retirement of Major H. A. Lewis Hall, M.C., R.E. in September, 1920, the department was taken over by Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Rowe, D.S.O., M.C., R.A., who landed in the Colony on 7th October, 1920, and proceeded to organise the department with the new personnel that began to arrive, on line laid down by His Excellency the Governor.

During October, 1920, the following work was done:—

(a) Survey organised into:—

- (i) Cadastral Branch with four Provincial Survey Sections.
- (ii) Topographical Branch with two Sections and four Field Camps, two Trigonometrical Camps and two Levelling Camps.
- (iii) Record and Reproduction Branch.
- (iv) The Survey School.

(b) The following programmes or instructions were issued during October:—

- (i) Scheme for topographical survey of area of six Standard Sheets on 1 : 125,000, and eight Town Plans.
- (ii) Cadastral instructions for Provincial Survey Sections.
- (iii) Scheme of triangulation.
- (iv) Instructions for formation of the Topographical Branch Record Office.

(c) During the same month the Topographical Field Camps and the Provincial Survey Sections were equipped with stores and despatched into the field, and the instructions and programmes enumerated in (b) put into action.

(d) The establishment of the Survey was reviewed in the light of the now completed organisation, and proposals put forward to the Secretary of State regarding various urgent requirements of the Colony chiefly concerning:—

- (i) A proper draughting staff and men to deal with records and production of plans urgently needed by the public and Government officers, and for the development of the Colony.
- (ii) A Section to undertake the Town Plans at a rate needed by recent expansion.
- (iii) Personnel to facilitate the rate of dealing with Land Surveys, and especially to speed up the work of assisting and examining Licensed Surveyors, and to deal with the existing confusion in all land questions.

During November the topographical work was inspected by the Surveyor-General in the field, and the following additional instructions issued, and the work begun :—

- (i) Formation of the Survey School.
- (ii) Production of new Wall Map.
- (iii) Production of new one million Map.
- (iv) System of dividing the Colony into Standard Cadastral Sheets.
- (v) Arrangements for facilitating the supply of Maps to the public.

(a) *During December* inspection of the Provincial Survey Sections was begun by the Director of the Cadastral Branch.

(b) *By the end of December* the triangulation had been successfully observed and computed from Accra to Appam, and from Accra to Akuse, on the Volta River, and the triangulation reconnaissance carried from the Volta River as far as Bompata. From that place it will probably reach Coomassie or the neighbourhood in two polygons. This connection by triangulation from Appam *via* Accra, to Akuse, and thence to Coomassie, will have a very beneficial effect on the general accuracy of the Colony Survey, especially in future Cadastral work.

(c) *By the end of December* an area of approximately 1,200 square miles has been topographically surveyed in the field, and eight concessions or other surveys carried out by the Provincial Survey Sections.

(d) *By the end of the year* 12 sheets of detail of the Accra Town Survey, on 1 : 1,000 had been surveyed on the ground, but no sheets produced, owing to delay in obtaining draughtsmen.

XV. IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

(SOUTH KENSINGTON, LONDON, S.W. 7)

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1920, FOR THE COLONY OF THE GOLD COAST.

Economic Investigations and Enquiries.—Reports on a number of products forwarded by Government Officers were furnished to the Government of the Gold Coast during the year as a result of investigations carried out in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented when necessary by reference to commercial experts. In addition, information relating to a variety of Gold Coast products was supplied to enquirers.

Cassava.—In connection with the examination of a sample of cassava roots from the Gold Coast in 1919, the Imperial Institute suggested that the question of the production of cassava products (dried roots, flour or starch) in the Colony for export might be considered, and that a larger sample of the dried roots should be forwarded for further investigation. The results of the examination of the second sample showed that the material agreed in composition with the recorded figures for cassava roots, and that the yield of prussic acid, although higher than in the case of the previous sample, was too small to be injurious.

In continuation of this enquiry information was supplied to the Director of Agriculture as to the cost of machinery and plant required for the production of (1) starch and (2) alcohol from cassava roots. Details of the cost of machines and implements suitable for the mechanical cultivation of cassava on a large scale were also furnished. The question was further discussed with the Senior Curator, Agricultural Department, when on leave in this country, and the addresses of firms manufacturing the necessary machinery and appliances were supplied to him with a view to his making personal enquiries as to the plant required. Subsequently information was furnished to the Assistant Director of Agriculture, who visited the Imperial Institute, as to the Boulard (Mucor) process of fermentation for the production of alcohol from starch.

Cinnamon bark.—Previous samples of Gold Coast cinnamon bark investigated at the Imperial Institute furnished a high yield of oil of good quality, and at the request of the Institute a larger consignment of the bark was forwarded by the Director of Agriculture for further examination. The results of the laboratory trials with this bark confirmed those previously obtained, and there is no doubt that the bark is of good quality and would be readily saleable in this country if offered in commercial quantities.

"Akuamma" seeds.—A sample of these seeds, which are employed by the natives in the Gold Coast for medicinal purposes, was forwarded to the Imperial Institute for chemical investigation. The seeds are derived from a plant known as "Akuamma" or "Onwoma," which was subsequently identified at Kew as *Picralima Klaineana*, Pierre (Apocynaceæ). Three species of *Picralima* have been described, but none of them appears to have been chemically investigated. A preliminary examination of the seeds at the Imperial Institute showed that they contain an alkaloid and a bitter substance, and probably a glucoside in addition. A further supply of the seeds has been requested for detailed examination in order to isolate these constituents.

Oilseeds.—Samples of *Jatropha Curcas* seed and oil, forwarded by the Department of Agriculture, were found to resemble closely samples of *Curcas* seed and oil from other sources which have been investigated at the Institute. *Curcas* oil is suitable for soap-making and there should be no difficulty in disposing of either the seeds or oil from the Gold Coast in the United Kingdom if they can be offered in commercial quantities. An enquiry was also received from the Gold Coast as to whether *Curcas* oil could be utilised for lubricating aeroplane engines in place of castor oil. Viscosity and drying tests carried out with the oil sent from the Gold Coast and with oil extracted at the Imperial Institute from the seed, in comparison with a sample of commercial castor oil, showed clearly that *Curcas* oil could not replace castor oil for this purpose.

Cotton.—A wild cotton received from the Accra Sisal Plantations was of good colour, lustre, and strength. The material was much superior to ordinary wild cotton, being generally similar to improved American Upland. Consignments of ginned cotton of similar quality would be readily saleable in the United Kingdom, and would have realised a price in Liverpool of 2s. per lb. (November, 1920), with "middling" American quoted at 14½d. per lb. If further experiments in cotton cultivation are undertaken in the Gold Coast this variety of cotton would be well worth trial.

Hat-making materials.—In connection with an enquiry initiated by the Imperial Institute as to the possibility of obtaining from British Colonies supplies of raw materials suitable for use by straw-hat manufacturers in the United Kingdom, five samples of grasses were forwarded by the Director of Agriculture for examination. The grasses were found to be similar to materials already in use in the industry, and representatives of the trade who were consulted stated that there would be no market for the grasses in the raw condition, and that if made into plaits, hoods or hats in the Gold Coast, the products would have to compete with the cheap materials obtained in large quantities from China and elsewhere. Samples of the plaits in demand in the United Kingdom were transmitted to the Gold Coast for reference together with information as to their market price, and the Imperial Institute suggested that similar plaits should be made in the Gold Coast and forwarded for bleaching and dyeing trials.

Timbers.—At the suggestion of the Conservator of Forests, the Crown Agents for the Colonies consulted the Imperial Institute with a view to obtaining information as to the physical constants and other characters of Gold Coast timbers to be exhibited at the Empire Timber Exhibition held in London in July, 1920, and as to publications relating to Gold Coast woods. This information was required for publication in the official catalogue of the Exhibition. The required information regarding a considerable number of Gold Coast woods, compiled from the results of tests previously carried out at the Imperial Institute, was supplied to the Crown Agents, who were also furnished with a list of publications dealing with Gold Coast woods.

Miscellaneous enquiries.—Other enquiries dealt with had reference to the commercial value of samples of supposed tale; the occurrence of manganese ore in the Colony; the cultivation of cocoa; raphia palm fruits; and the climatic and general conditions of the Gold Coast.

Publications.—The following articles relating to subjects of special interest to the Gold Coast were published in the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute for 1920 :—

The Cultivation and Preparation of Cocoa.

The Cultivation of the African Oil Palm.

Gold Coast Court.—The Public Exhibition Galleries, including the portion occupied by the Gold Coast Court, were re-decorated throughout during the year, after being in the occupation of H.M. Government for war purposes. The Gold Coast show cases and exhibits have been re-installed.

No new additions have been received for exhibition direct from the Gold Coast Government, but at the close of the British Empire Timber Exhibition a set of 46 specimens of Gold Coast timbers were transferred to the Imperial Institute and will be placed in the Court. The specimens will be of much value for exhibition purposes and in connection with the work on timbers carried out at the Imperial Institute.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1120.

GAMBIA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1053.)



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No. 1120.**GAMBIA.****ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1920.*****I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**

1. The principal event during the year was the departure in July of Sir Edward J. Cameron, K.C.M.G., on retirement, after he had administered the Government for over six years, which included the critical years of the Great War. The Governor Designate, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., who has been the Chief Commissioner for the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast for some years, had not arrived in the Colony at the close of the period under review ; but his arrival was expected at an early date.

2. No public works of importance were completed during 1920. It was not found possible to make any progress in 1920 with the schemes for laying down lighted buoys, which should render the riverine approaches to Bathurst accessible to navigation by day or by night, or for building a Government wharf more adequate than the present structure, which is unsatisfactory in several respects, and not suited to the requirements of Bathurst and the Colony. Financial provision has, however, been made in the Estimates for 1921 which will permit of the laying down of the proposed lighted buoys, and also of preliminary investigations being undertaken in connection with the proposed new wharf in the course of 1921.

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

3. The Revenue and Expenditure for the past three years have been as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Excess of Assets over Liabilities.</i>
	£	£	£
1918	133,324	88,703	193,894
1919	180,585	143,451	231,028
1920	268,788	171,160	328,657

4. There is no public debt.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 861 [Cd. 7622-53].

Approximately, 75 per cent. of the revenue is derived from Customs Duties, the main sources in 1920 being £105,000 from *ad valorem* duties, £33,000 from the duty on Kola nuts, and £26,000 from the export duty on ground-nuts. The general *ad valorem* duty is $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Boots and shoes, jewellery and perfumery pay 10 per cent., and in November, 1920, cotton goods, which formerly had come under the general *ad valorem* duty, were brought within this category, and at the same time the 5 per cent. duty on foodstuffs was abolished, and the export duty on ground nuts, which has stood at 6s. 8d. a ton for many years, notwithstanding the great appreciation in the market value of ground-nuts, was raised to £1 a ton. The increased export duty on the ground-nuts did not, of course, affect the shipment of the 1919-1920 crop, which, in accordance with the usual custom, had practically all been shipped before the new rate of duty came into force. An export duty of £2 a ton for palm kernels has been imposed also. The duty on spirits was raised from 5s. 6d. to 15s. per imperial gallon in January, 1920.

5. Although the revenue raised in 1920 is easily the largest amount ever collected in any one year in this Colony, and though expenditure has not increased in the same ratio as revenue, the finances of the Colony are not in quite so flourishing a condition as would at first sight appear to be the case. While the restrictions necessarily imposed on expenditure during the years of the Great War have permitted the Colony's finances to be built up, they have at the same time left the Colony with a great deal of leeway to make up in the matter of developing its resources.

III. PROGRESS OF TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

(a) TRADE.

6. *Trade*.—The remarkable progress which trade has made in recent years in this Colony has been much more than fully maintained in 1920. The figures, which speak for themselves, are as follows :—

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports ..	884,553	991,626	1,458,014	1,250,321	2,711,877
Exports ..	705,546	1,046,503	1,100,210	1,553,524	2,466,144
Total ..	<u>1,590,099</u>	<u>2,038,129</u>	<u>2,558,224</u>	<u>2,803,845</u>	<u>5,178,021</u>

The following are the total trade returns, excluding specie, for the last five years :—

1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
£	£	£	£	£
1,021,646	1,649,957	1,802,316	2,409,565	4,839,780

During the above quinquennium, specie to the value of £845,747 has been imported into the Colony in excess of that which has been exported from it.

7. The trading business of the Colony is now to a very great extent in the hands of agencies, the principals of which have their headquarters in either England or France. A list of the leading firms, with their addresses, appears in the appendix to this report.

8. The merchants have undoubtedly made large profits in recent years, and have also done so in the year under review; but whether it will be possible for such large profits to be made in the immediate future appears to be somewhat dubious in view of the extraordinary collapse in the ground-nut market. The difficulties in the way of opening new businesses are moreover considerable. Capital is essential, and there are only a very few available sites for further buildings and wharves in Bathurst.

9. *Imports*.—The total import trade in 1920, excluding specie, was valued at £2,376,069. The value is that given at the port of shipment. Cotton piece goods and articles of cotton manufacture account for no less than £798,255. The other principal imports were as follows:—Rice, £329,069; kola nuts which come from Sierra Leone, £285,374; sugar, £65,136; hardware, £56,420; tobacco, £45,755.

10. The quantity of rice imported nearly trebled that imported in 1919. This was due to the fact that the local crops of rice and corn failed. The quantity of kola nuts imported, which was the greatest on record, may be regarded as an indication of the financial position of the people.

11. During the last three years the percentage proportions of the import trade have been as follows:—

	1918	1919	1920
United Kingdom	58	57	60
British Possessions	15	14	13
France and French Possessions	8	8	13
United States of America ..	16	19	10
Other Countries	3	2	4

12. In recent years the United States of America has made a strong effort to secure a substantial share of the West African trade. The value of imports from the United States of America has been as follows during the last three years:—

1918	1919	1920
£141,873	£235,548	£229,029

It will thus be seen that the effort of the United States has not been maintained either actually or even relatively as compared with other countries. A curious feature with regard to this trade with the United States is that there are no exports from the Gambia to the former country. The principal imports from the United States are rice, leaf tobacco, sugar, flour, timber, fuel oils, hardware and perfumery.

13. In the matter of hardware, manufacturers in the United Kingdom are so far competing very successfully with those of the United States ; for while in 1919 the hardware trade, valued at £47,764, was almost solely restricted to, and nearly equally divided between, the manufacturers in the United Kingdom and those in the United States, yet in 1920 the hardware imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £41,389, and those from France at £8,291, taking the second place, and those from the United States at £3,799, taking only the third place.

14. *Exports.*—The value of the export trade for 1920 was £2,463,711, of which ground-nuts accounted for £2,322,032. Hides were exported to the value of £21,125 ; and palm kernels and calabashes to the value of £9,470 and £2,649 respectively. A few minor products and re-exported articles made up the balance of exports.

15. The exports of ground-nuts and palm kernels during the last three years have been as follows :—

	1918		1919		1920	
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Value</i>
Ground-nuts . .	56,490	£ 800,319	70,270	£ 1,154,429	84,037	£ 2,322,032
Palm kernels	646	9,799	671	15,324	408	9,470

16. For many years down to 1916 the ground-nut trade was mainly in French hands although, in the years before the Great War, Germany was securing a greater share of it for herself every year. The restrictions imposed during the Great War diverted this trade to the United Kingdom, and, although the amount of this trade which the United Kingdom took in 1920 was not so great as in 1919, yet it was no less than 81 per cent. on the whole. France took nearly 13 per cent.

17. The price of ground-nuts was considerably higher than usual during the early months of 1920, and it reached at one time just over £50 a ton. The price, however, fell about the middle of the year to about £30, and this fall continued, notwithstanding a partial recovery of the price in September, until at the end of the year under review the price was down to £22 15s. a ton, and there was even then no prospect of the end of the fall being in sight.

18. Piassava and wax have practically disappeared from the export trade ; and gum, ivory, and gold no longer form any part of that trade ; but the latter two commodities, however, did not originate in British Territory.

19. Importers of oil-seeds and manufacturers in the United Kingdom who wish to get into touch with the Gambia trade should apply either direct to the principals of the various firms or to

the Receiver General of the Colony, who is the Honorary Trade Correspondent of the Board of Trade. The local Chamber of Commerce is affiliated to the London Chamber of Commerce.

20. Individuals who wish to apply for employment in the Gambia as mechanics, clerks, etc., should address themselves to the headquarters of the firms in England or in France.

(b) AGRICULTURE.

21. The prosperity of the Colony is entirely dependent on agriculture, and it follows therefore that too much attention cannot be paid to its needs in this direction. At the end of 1920 an Agricultural Expert, Mr. M. T. Dawe, was engaged to advise the Government in agricultural matters.

22. The soil of, and the climatic conditions obtaining in, the Protectorate make it singularly well suited for the cultivation of the ground-nut ; and, while this continues to be a profitable industry, it is most improbable that the people will take the trouble to raise any other important crop.

23. The ground-nut industry continues to be conducted on the very simple, almost primitive, basis which has obtained for so many years. The nuts are grown solely by the native farmers with the assistance of those "strange farmers" who, to the number of as many as 20,000, come annually into British territory for what may be termed the ground-nut season. These "strange farmers," many of whom come very long distances, usually return to their homes when their crops have been harvested and sold. The Government in 1920, as in previous years, supplied seed to the extent of about 1,000 tons to supplement the seed taken from the previous year's crop. The seed is sown at the beginning of the rains in June or July and the crop is lifted in November when the rains are over.

24. A certain amount of cotton used to be grown in, and rubber also used to be exported from, the Gambia in bygone years ; but very little cotton is grown now, and the experiments which were undertaken some years ago with a view to encouraging cotton-growing were a failure because of the unsuitability of the climate. The export of rubber from this Colony, which some twenty-five years ago was worth nearly £30,000, has now entirely ceased. The rubber was obtained from wild *Landolphia* vines, and was not cultivated. The vines were tapped all the year round, a most uneconomic method and one which has no doubt helped to kill them off.

25. The rainfall in 1920 was 34·29 in. The average rainfall is steadily decreasing year by year, but no satisfactory explanation of this rather curious fact has been discovered so far. The absence of rain during nearly two-thirds of the year is, of course, a very

serious difficulty in the way of growing other cereal crops on a commercial basis, and it is a difficulty which has not been overcome so far by a system of artificial irrigation, although it is considered possible that there are one or two fairly large areas in the Protectorate which would lend themselves to irrigation.

26. *Other cereal crops*.—The people's staple foods are maize, guinea-corn, and millet ; and on the river flats a not inconsiderable quantity of rice is grown. Beans, cassava and sweet potatoes are also grown. Mangoes, oranges and pawpaws flourish, but there are few other kinds of fruit trees.

27. All the attempts in the past to induce the people to use modern agricultural implements and methods have failed, and the land is still worked by hand in the most primitive manner. The fact that there is no Agricultural Department in the Colony is no doubt one reason why these attempts have always proved such consistent failures in the past.

28. *Timber*.—Rhum palms, mahogany and rosewood are all used locally in such industries as ship and wharf building ; but none of these trees is, however, found to any considerable extent, and no timber is exported. The quality of the mahogany and rosewood is not considered sufficiently good for the European market.

IV. LAND.

29. *Public Lands*.—All lands which were not actually occupied when the Protectorate was established are regarded as public lands, and, as such, are controlled and leased by the Government. The policy now in force is to grant no lease for a longer period than twenty-one years, and such leases are usually granted for suitable sites on the banks of the River Gambia and its creeks for the erection of trading stations. The maximum area for which leases are issued is 6,000 square yards, and the annual rent varies from £1 to £4 per 1,000 square yards according to the situation of the site leased, *e.g.*, whether it is located at a place which is accessible for ocean-going craft or is more remotely situated, and possibly even inland.

The total rental received by the Government in 1920 from the leases of land granted in the Protectorate was £2,352. The number of new leases of land issued in 1920 was sixteen, in addition to which seventy-nine licences were granted for wharves either already erected or to be erected.

V. EDUCATION

30. *Elementary*.—There are six schools providing elementary education in Bathurst and two in Georgetown, MacCarthy Island. There are no schools in the Protectorate, but in most of the Mohammedan towns the Almamis impart a certain amount of religious instruction to the children.

31. The number of children in 1920 who were on the roll of the elementary schools was 1,345, including thirteen pupils at the Wesleyan Technical School. This was closed about the middle of the year owing to the departure of the Superintendent to Europe, and it is understood that there is no prospect of its being re-opened. 637 children are being educated in the Roman Catholic Schools, 595 by the Wesleyans, and 113 at the Anglican School. Government grants amounting to £1,094 were made in 1920 to the schools conducted by the above-mentioned religious bodies. The total expenditure was £2,553, the balance being raised by contributions from the managers of the schools and by school fees.

The Mohammedan School, which was attended in 1920 by seventy-five pupils, is maintained by Government at a cost, in that year, of £151.

32. The sum which was provided by Government in 1920 for education was £1,953.

33. *Secondary*.—There is only one secondary school in the Colony, and this, which is attended by about fifty pupils, is maintained by the Wesleyan Community.

34. *General*.—It has long been recognised that the provision which is made in the Colony and the Protectorate for education is very far from being what it should be, and measures are now being taken for improving the educational system, such as the provision of more adequate accommodation and of a more highly-skilled teaching staff, measures which have long been delayed owing to the Great War. Arrangements have been made for an Educational Expert from a neighbouring West African Colony to visit the Gambia early in 1921 in order that he may study and report on the present educational system, and advise Government as to the best lines on which the education system should be developed.

VI. CURRENCY AND BANKING.

35. British Western African silver, British sterling, alloy and nickel and bronze coins and West African Currency Notes for £5, £1, 10s., 2s. and 1s. are all legal tender. There are two banks which do business in Bathurst: the Bank of British West Africa and the Colonial Bank.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS.

36. *Communications*.—There are no railways or telegraph lines in the Colony. There is a small telephone installation in Bathurst. The African Direct Telegraph Company have a station in Bathurst, and commercial messages from shore to ship and vice versa are accepted for transmission by the Admiralty Wireless Telegraph Station which was erected near Bathurst in 1915.

37. Before the end of 1920 Wireless Telegraph and Telephone Stations were in the course of being erected at Bathurst and at MacCarthy Island, 176 miles distant, in accordance with the

arrangements made with the Marconi Company in the previous year. The service, which is intended for internal communication, was not, however, open to the general public by the end of the year.

38. The steamers of the African Steamship Company (Messrs. Elder Dempster and Company) furnish a service plying between Liverpool and Bathurst. Passengers can also not infrequently travel to Europe from Dakar, in French Senegal, which is only about ninety miles distant. There is also a direct line of steamers from America (the Bull Line) and also from Holland.

39. The total tonnage entering and clearing during 1920 at the port of Bathurst was 796,920, being an increase of over 82 per cent. on the tonnage that entered and cleared in 1919. Of the total tonnage no less than 591,646 tons were British, but the United States and Dutch tonnage increased considerably owing to the direct service of steamers from New York and Rotterdam.

VIII. SOCIAL

40. *Health and Vital Statistics.*—The death-rate in Bathurst in 1920 was 49·82 per mille. The total number of deaths registered was 414 as against 249 in 1919. No vital statistics are available for the Protectorate. Malaria, tuberculosis, amoebic dysentery and venereal disease are the most prevalent forms of disease.

41. The cost of living in the Gambia is comparatively high, and social unrest is increasing to some extent—at any rate in Bathurst, where Unions and Associations on the most modern lines have been formed. A strike occurred in October, 1920, among the native shipwrights and mariners, but it was terminated in consequence of an award made by an Arbitration Board appointed by Government to enquire into and make recommendations for removing the causes of the dispute and any grievances which were found to exist. The award was accepted by all the parties concerned. Wages for skilled labourers vary between 2s. 6d., 7s. and even 8s. a day. Carpenters, mechanics and shipwrights who are employed all the year round earn from 6s. to 10s. a day. Household servants are somewhat scarce, and the quality of their service is certainly not as a rule very good, notwithstanding that they receive wages varying from £2 to as much as £5 a month.

The following appendices are printed :—

1. List of principal firms trading in the Gambia.
2. List of Barristers, Solicitors and Patent Agents.

Recent Publications on the Gambia :—

“ The Gambia Colony.”—F. B. Archer (St. Bride’s Press), 1905.

“ The Gambia.”—H. Reeve (Smith Elder), 1912.

Annual Trade Report of the Colony, 1900–1920, obtainable from the Crown Agents

APPENDIX I.

Principal Firms, etc.

The following are the principal firms carrying on a general import and export trade.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Address in Europe, if any.</i>
*African & Eastern Trade Corporation, Ltd.	Wellington Street	Royal Liver Building, Liverpool.
*Barthes & Lesieur	„ „	8, Cours de Gourque, Bordeaux.
*Bathurst Trading Co., Ltd.	„ „	34, Leadenhall St., London, E.C.
*Compagnie Francaise de L'Afrique Occidentale.	„ „	32, Cours Pierre Puget, Marseilles.
*Etablissements Maurel and Prom.	„ „	18, Rue Porte Dijeaux, Bordeaux.
*Gambia Trading Co., Ltd. ..	Buckle Street ..	23, Water Street, Liverpool.
*Maurel Freres	Wellington Street	6, Quai Louis XVIII, Bordeaux.
*Louis Vezia & Compagnie..	„ „	83, Cours de Verdun, Bordeaux.
*Palmine, Ltd.	„ „	Moorgate Hall, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.
Antoin Blain	„ „	—
Jones, S. Horton	Russell Street ..	—

• Members of the Bathurst Chamber of Commerce.

APPENDIX II.

List of Barristers and Solicitors.

Barristers are entitled to practise as Solicitors and vice versa.

*S. J. Forster, M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon), Barrister-at-Law, Wellington Street.

*I. J. Roberts, 6, Buckle Street.

M. J. R. Pratt, M.A., B.C.L. (Durham), Barrister-at-Law, Allen Street.

†G. K. Roberts, 6, Buckle Street.

• Patent and Trade Mark Agent.

† Trade Mark Agent.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920

MISCELLANEOUS:

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1121.

GAMBIA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1120.)



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Edinburgh.

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No. 1121.**GAMBIA.**

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1921.*

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Gambia is the smallest but the oldest of the possessions of England in Africa. For centuries past it has been the resort of mariners, but it was not until Elizabethan days that our sea-power enabled us to plant outposts here.

The first book to arouse the interest of our nation in this part of the world was that entitled "The Discovery of the River Gambia and the Golden Trade of the Ethiopians. Also the commerce with a Great Black Merchant called Buckar Sano and his report of the Houses covered with Gold and other Strange Observations for the Good of our Country. Set down as they were collected in travelling part of the year 1620 and 1621 by Richard Jobson, gent." This book was the outcome of the Charter granted by King James I to the "Company of Adventurers of London trading into Africa" which established Fort James, our first settlement ashore on the Dark Continent. A century later the Royal African Company controlled the commerce of the Gambia, and made large profits on their cargoes of slaves and gold and ivory and beeswax.

Chartered company administration, however, was ruined by the Act of 1807, which abolished the slave trade, and although an annual subsidy of £23,000 was paid to the company, it was unable to make a profit, and its assets were taken over by the Crown. Since 1816 the seat of Government has been at Bathurst, which was founded by the English merchants who left Senegal and the Island of Goree when those territories were restored to France after the Napoleonic wars. It was named after the then Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sir Richard Burton, a visitor sixty years ago, compared its houses with those of Byculla, Bombay, and wrote of it as "a place selected for unhealthiness, for proximity to mud, mangrove, miasma and malaria." Much has been done to improve its condition since then, and its death-rate is now only 44·5 per 1000.

* A sketch map found in the Report for 1914, No. 861 [Cd. 7622-53].

The principal event of the year 1921 was the arrival in January of the new Governor, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., formerly Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast, whose long experience of West Africa made his appointment particularly acceptable to all sections of the community.

As no public works of importance were carried out in 1920, an ambitious programme was laid down for 1921, but it became apparent, as the year wore on, that pre-war conditions had not been restored, and the delay in obtaining materials from England hindered progress. The largest undertaking put in hand was the building of the new barracks for the West African Frontier Force at Cape St. Mary, which, when completed, will provide ample accommodation for the Gambia Company, with separate rooms for each soldier.

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years have been :

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of assets over liabilities.
	£	£	£
1917	117,977	94,519	149,374
1918	133,324	88,703	193,894
1919	180,585	143,451	231,028
1920	268,788	171,160	328,657
1921	183,201	225,461	286,396

There is no public debt.

Export duty on ground-nuts, the chief source of revenue, was first introduced in 1862, so that for sixty years this particular form of taxation has obtained in the Gambia.

Ad valorem duty is charged on the invoiced value of goods at the port of shipment exclusive of trade discounts, and the greatest decrease in revenue was under this head.

The receipt from the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on cotton piece-goods amounted to £10,834, as compared with £52,882 in 1920, when the duty was only 7½ per cent. *ad valorem* until November. The revenue derived from the import duty on kola-nuts was £24,545, and for the first time in the history of the Colony exceeded that derived from *ad valorem* duties. The duty on spirits was 15s. a gallon in 1920, and it produced £7,005. In 1921, in spite of the increase to 25s. a gallon and the prohibition of trade spirits, the revenue produced from this source was £7,408. The total expenditure, which exceeded the revenue by £42,260, included part payment of the cost of construction of the new barracks and the new Government steamer.

The excess of assets over liabilities shows a decrease of £42,260 compared with 1920. The assets include the debt owed by the Protectorate to the Government for rice and seed-nuts lavishly supplied in the previous year.

The market value of the Government investments at the beginning of the year was nearly £30,000 less than their cost price, but a distinct improvement is shown when compared with 1920, when the depreciation was nearly £44,000.

III. TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

The year 1921 was one of the worst in the annals of the Colony, and the total foreign trade showed a decline of £3,500,000 as compared with 1920. As elsewhere, this was due to the heavy fall in the price of produce and of goods. Large stocks of merchandise which had been bought at high rates during the boom had to be liquidated at much below actual cost, and the enormous credits given out by the traders in the Protectorate could not be collected.

The quantity of cotton piece-goods imported was the smallest for many years, the only considerable article which showed an increase compared with pre-war times being kola-nuts.

Whilst less spirits were imported than ever before, and no trade spirits at all, a large consumption of palm-wine has taken place, on which much profit is made by the native retailers.

The prosperity of the Colony is entirely dependent on agriculture. The ground-nut is the staple product. A small business is done in palm kernels, but the figures for the last five years show that it is diminishing.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Ground-nuts, in tons ..	74,300	56,490	71,677	85,190	59,175
Palm kernels, in tons ..	532	644	671	468	302

The grower received little for his ground-nut crop, nuts ranging from 3s. to 1s. 3d. a bushel. Prices f.o.b. were declared at an average of £12 10s. a ton, the Liverpool market ranging from £14 10s. in January to £21 10s. in December.

The nuts are grown entirely by native proprietors, whose numbers are nearly doubled each year by the "Strange farmers" who come over from Senegal at the beginning and leave at the end of the season. The influx of so many strangers is not without its disadvantages, but the custom is of long-standing, and the visitors add to the volume of up-river trade. An improvement of the quality of the harvest is expected from an Ordinance against adulteration of produce which came into force towards the end of the year.

A judicious selection of seed-nuts and the application of scientific methods of planting and ploughing are needed.

An experimental station—no new proposal in the Gambia—has been recommended by the agricultural expert sent out by the Colonial Office to advise the Government during the year, and a further proposal to establish a Department of Agriculture is under consideration.

On account of the large debts due to the Government from last season, the policy of supplying seed-nuts on credit to the farmers has been discontinued.

Rice, guinea-corn, millet and maize are at present only grown for local food supplies. Three thousand tons of rice, only a third of the import of 1920, was brought in this year, but all this and more could be grown in the Protectorate if the people were to irrigate their land.

Much damage to food crops is caused by monkeys, wart-hogs and hippopotami.

The elephant, which figures in the Gambia badge, is seen no more, and lions are rarely encountered. The Commissioner of the North Bank Province writes: "The killing of a lion here is worth recording, for although one or two come into the Gambia every year—and they are frequently heard—I do not think more than three have been killed during the last twenty years." The full-grown male shot in Jokadu on 1st May was about three years old and absolutely maneless.

Herds are rapidly recovering from the effects of the 1917 scourge, which carried off about 80 per cent. of the Senegal and Gambia cattle.

In the Upper River Province there was a heavy mortality amongst donkeys, which are extensively used in transport work.

IV. LAND AND CLIMATE.

All land not in actual occupation when the Protectorate was established is regarded as public, and is leased by Government in small parcels for a period not exceeding 21 years.

At wharf towns the value of frontage plots depends partly on whether ocean-going craft can go alongside to take in cargo, or whether loading has to be done by lighter or canoe. Conditions are imposed against sub-letting without permission. The erection of permanent buildings and of boundary pillars and the cleaning of roads are covenants of the leases, and tenants of river-side land are required to reserve for public use a path not less than ten yards wide on each bank.

The total rental received by Government from Crown lands in Bathurst in 1921 was £725, in the Protectorate £4,064.

The number of new grants made was 75, in addition to which licences for 12 wharves already erected or to be erected were issued.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of acreage under crops, as the Protectorate has not yet been fully surveyed.

The annual rainfall is diminishing, but the decrease does not appear to have a marked effect on the ground-nut crop, but without statistics of the area sown no calculation of the yield can be made, because a certain proportion of the harvest is eaten, and some seed-nuts are carried over for the next season. A fair average would be about 40 bushels, or half a ton, to the acre.

During 1921 the rainfall in Bathurst was 35·12 inches, and the mean average temperature 78·5.

V. EDUCATION.

An educational expert visited the colony at the invitation of the Government during the year. An Education Code was drafted by him, but its adoption will necessitate an expenditure which cannot be incurred at the moment. The present system of subsidizing the schools attached to the Christian and Mahommedan communities leaves much to be desired. There is no compulsory attendance ; 1,717 children are on the rolls of the denominational elementary schools, and the only secondary institution in the Colony, the Wesleyan High School, has 50 pupils. No candidate came forward for the new scholarships offered to Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone.

The difficulty of obtaining suitable teachers can only be overcome by the establishment of a Gambia Training College, with an adequate staff. The average standard of education is low, but the people are intelligent, and only need facilities to enable them to compete successfully with the other West African Colonies. A curriculum which would include industrial or technical training is badly needed. Many now enter the service of Government or the firms as clerks who would be better employed in following a trade.

In September a troop of Boy Scouts was formed, and it is hoped that the movement will take root and have a wide influence on the rising generation of the Gambia.

VI. CURRENCY AND BANKING.

Alloy coins, first issued by the West African Currency Board in November, 1920, are unpopular, but the pound and ten shilling notes were in great demand by persons wishing to exchange French money, and for this reason they were called in early in the year. The prevalence of the five-franc piece characterized the currency

of this Colony long before the Order-in-Council of the 10th June, 1843, fixed it at 3s. 10½d., at which figure it has remained ever since. In 1880, when it formed 85 per cent. of the total circulation of the Colony, the question of demonetization was raised, but rejected. The popularity of the five-franc piece, apart from its handsome appearance and intrinsic value and usefulness, is due to the fact that the dollar is the unit of price here, and is current at the convenient rate of 4s., except in payments to the Government.

In March the two banks trading in Bathurst, the Bank of British West Africa and the Colonial Bank, refused to accept five-franc pieces for transfers abroad except at the current rate of exchange.

In April the importation of these coins was prohibited, but their number increased, and the situation became embarrassing, although the Government restored public confidence by a guarantee.

After demonetization had been effected in Sierra Leone this Colony became the magnet which attracted five-franc pieces from all over West Africa.

By the end of the year the Government had over £70,000 in five-franc pieces at legal tender value, earning no interest and of no use for transfers.

The Bathurst Chamber of Commerce, which had strongly opposed demonetization in the early months of the year, pressed for it towards the close, when the accumulation of dollars gave cause for general alarm, and it was decided to demonetize the coin in January, 1922.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS.

A considerable increase in the proportion of foreign shipping to English has taken place this year, more than half the tonnage entered and cleared being foreign, as compared with one-third last year.

The first German steamer seen in the Gambia since June, 1914, arrived on the 7th May, 1921.

Four buoys lighted by acetylene have been laid down at the entrance to the river, so that Bathurst is now accessible for ships at any time of the day or night.

The Government yacht "Mansa Kila Ba," which is used for official purposes only, is shortly to be replaced by a larger vessel now building in England, which will be fitted with apparatus for lifting the buoys.

A river service is maintained by several of the firms during the season, and the Government runs a small steamer fortnightly throughout the year.

Preliminary investigations were carried out by an engineering expert in connection with the proposals for building a new wharf at Bathurst.

Trial borings, current gauging and soundings were made. As the undertaking would benefit chiefly the mail steamers, it is hoped that an improved service with Liverpool and London will be put on to justify the estimated expenditure of over £70,000. Loading steamers use private wharves in Bathurst and up the river.

With such a superb waterway as the Gambia little attention has been paid to road-making, but during this year there has been progress, and with more motor traffic it will be necessary to link up the existing roads with bridges at points where tributary streams run into the main river.

A small wireless set between Bathurst and Georgetown was opened in March and operated by the Marconi Company. The Naval Wireless Station erected during the War at Cape Saint Mary was closed down this year in conformity with the Admiralty's policy of retrenchment.

Cable communication with Europe is maintained by the African Direct Telegraph Company, through whom Reuter's news messages are received.

VIII. PROTECTORATE.

In the Protectorate, where nine-tenths of the population live, the great expectations of a prosperous trading season were not fulfilled. From a farmer's point of view it was the worst on record: 1915 was a bad year, for the price of nuts was even lower than in the year under review, but the people were not then overwhelmed with debt as the result of the injurious practice adopted by the native agents of the firms of supplying the natives with goods on credit.

The Government has made the strongest representations to the Bathurst Chamber of Commerce with a view to putting an end to that practice.

One result of the fall in prices was the cheapness of labour. In the wharf towns, where a large floating population collects, a shilling a day and rations, or even rations alone, were paid, whereas in 1920 it was difficult to get men to work at six shillings a day.

The wharf towns are a grave problem, and it will be necessary to take steps to improve their condition in the near future. There are only three Police posts in the Protectorate, and the Travelling Commissioners are only able to spend a part of their time in the larger centres.

Indirect government is carried on by the Chiefs and Headmen in each of the five Provinces. Many of them show a marked talent for administration.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"

MISCELLANEOUS

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

APPENDIX I.

Principal Firms, etc.

The following are the principal firms carrying on a general import and export trade :—

Name.	Address.	Address in Europe (if any).
*African & Eastern Trade Corporation, Ltd.	Wellington Street	Royal Liver Building, Liverpool.
*Barthes & Lesieur ..	.. ..	8, Cours de Gourque, Bordeaux.
*Bathurst Trading Co., Ltd.	.. ..	34, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.
*Compagnie Française de L'Afrique Occidentale.	.. ..	32, Cours Pierre Puget, Marseilles.
*Etablissements Maurel and Prom.	.. ..	18, Rue Porte Dijaux, Bordeaux.
*Gambia Trading Co., Ltd.	Buckle Street	23, Water Street, Liverpool.
*Maurel Frères	Wellington Street	6, Quai Louis XVIII, Bordeaux.
*Louis Vezia & Compagnie.	.. ..	83, Cours de Verdun, Bordeaux.
*Palmine, Ltd. .. ..	.. ..	Moorgate Hall, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.
Anton Blain .. ..	.. ..	—

* Members of the Bathurst Chamber of Commerce.

APPENDIX II.

List of Barristers and Solicitors.

Barristers are entitled to practise as Solicitors and vice-versa.

*S. J. Forster, M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon)., Barrister-at-Law, Wellington Street.

*I. J. Roberts, 6, Buckle Street.

M. J. R. Pratt, M.A., B.C.L. (Durham), Barrister-at-Law, Allen Street.

†G. K. Roberts, 6, Buckle Street.

* Patent and Trade Mark Agent.

† Trade Mark Agent.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

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1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"

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92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

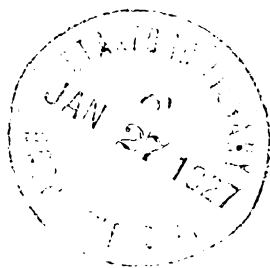
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1122.

COLONY & PROTECTORATE
OF KENYA.

REPORT FOR 1920 - 21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1089.)



LONDON:

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1922

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No. 1122.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF KENYA* FOR THE YEAR 1920-21.

I.—FINANCIAL.

A.—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE sanctioned expenditure for the year 1920-21 amounted to £3,192,327, and the actual expenditure to £2,976,960. Before comparing the latter figure with the former, account has to be taken of the fact that the King's African Rifles expenditure for the last three months of the year, estimated at £43,277, is not included. The sum of £91,166 has also to be added to the expenditure, and £126,781 deducted therefrom, the former amount representing the unexpended balance of votes on uncompleted works to be carried forward to 1921, and the latter being a similar item carried forward from 1919-20 to 1920-21. After taking these factors into consideration the resulting figure is £2,984,622, a saving of £207,705 on the sanctioned estimates.

The total Revenue for the year amounted to £2,978,785, being £389,133 more than the previous year, but £213,542 short of estimated Revenue.

The following table shows the Expenditure and Revenue for the last six years:—

	Expenditure.			Revenue.		
	£			£		
1915-16	1,609,375	...	...	1,748,341
1916-17	1,796,094	...	...	2,300,674
1917-18	2,233,856	...	...	2,052,493
1918-19	2,356,057	...	...	2,323,054
1919-20	3,037,291	...	...	2,589,652
1920-21	2,976,960	...	...	2,978,785

* *Colonial Office Note.*—Formerly known as the East African Protectorate. By the "Kenya Annexation Order in Council, 1920," the territories outside the mainland dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar were recognised as a Colony. This Order in Council came into operation on the 23rd of July, 1920, and henceforth the Sultan's mainland dominions are styled the Protectorate of Kenya, whilst the remaining territory is known as the Colony of Kenya.

A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15 [Cd. 8172-7].

Financial Position on 31st March, 1921.

The Assets exceeded the Liabilities on 31st March, 1921, by £205,627, the figure being arrived at as follows:—

Net Assets on 1st April, 1920	...	...	...	...	£
Revenue, 1920-21	...	...	...	...	208,802
Expenditure, 1920-21	...	...	...	...	£2,978,786
	...	...	...	...	£2,976,961
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure, 1920-21	...	...	...	...	1,825
					£205,627

In order to ascertain the actual financial position the under-mentioned contingent liabilities must be taken into consideration, and, after doing so, the result is a deficit of £240,049. Compared with 1919-20, there is a slight improvement, as the deficit as at 31st March, 1920, was £244,257.

Unexpended balance of votes for works sanctioned but uncompleted	...	...	...	...	£
Estimate of Military Expenditure for 1919-20 for which no debits have been received	...	...	...	...	91,166
Outstanding debit for King's African Rifles Expenditure for last three months of 1920-21, based on proportion of the past nine months	...	...	...	...	285,258
Balance of Stand Premia Fund	...	...	...	...	43,277
					25,975
					£445,676

B.—CURRENCY.

Under the East Africa and Uganda Currency Order in Council (No. 2), 1920, the Indian rupee was replaced by a British East African florin, ten being the equivalent of one pound sterling. Conversions between sterling and local currency in the Colony's accounts prior to 1920-21 were made at one shilling and fourpence to the rupee, but from the 1st April, 1920, onwards at two shillings to the rupee or florin, and when comparing the sterling figures of the year under review with those of previous years 50 per cent. should be added to the latter in order to obtain a correct comparison.

The figures quoted in this Report have been so treated.

Under Clause 9 of the Order in Council referred to above, the East African Currency Board, London, were empowered to take over the powers, rights, duties and obligations of the local Currency Board, and the transfer was effected on the 31st July, 1920. The new Board also took over from the Treasurer the liabilities in respect of subsidiary coinage, and the whole currency of the Colony is therefore in their control.

The following new Legislation relating to currency was passed during the year:—

ON THE 26TH APRIL, 1920, THE EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA CURRENCY ORDER IN COUNCIL (No. 2), 1920.

This Order provided for the coining of a British East African Florin to be the standard coin, and for references to rupees or to pounds sterling in contracts, etc., to be interpreted as if these

were substituted references to florins at the rate of one florin to one rupee or ten florins to one pound. It provided also for subsidiary coins, for transferring the powers and duties from the existing Currency Board to a new Board, when constituted, and for the repeal of former currency legislation with a proviso that existing arrangements remained in force until others, to take their place, were completed. This Order was not published in the Colony until June, 1920, and was brought into force by a PROCLAMATION UNDER THE ORDER DATED THE 19TH JULY, 1920.

ON THE 11TH MAY, 1920, PROCLAMATION UNDER THE EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA CURRENCY ORDER (No. 2), 1920.

New Currency notes of the East African Currency Board, of denomination of one rupee, were made legal tender for payment of any amount.

ON THE 19TH JULY, 1920, PROCLAMATION UNDER THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE, 1910.

The importation of the silver rupee of British India and of notes of the denomination of one rupee issued by the Government of India was prohibited, because the exchange value of the rupee in India fell below two shillings, the exchange value given for the rupee in Kenya by the Currency Board.

ON THE 4TH AUGUST, 1920, PROCLAMATION UNDER THE CUSTOMS AMENDMENT ORDINANCE, 1915.

Restrictions on the exportation of gold coin and bullion were removed in order to give holders of gold coin, which were no longer legal tender, opportunity for disposing of them.

ON THE 27TH AUGUST, 1920, PROCLAMATION UNDER THE CUSTOMS AMENDMENT ORDINANCE, 1915.

Restrictions on the exportation of Indian one rupee notes were removed, there being no longer the necessity for conserving the supply of this form of currency as one rupee notes of the East African Currency Board were available.

ON THE 27TH OCTOBER, 1920, PROCLAMATION UNDER THE EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA CURRENCY (No. 2) ORDER, 1920.

Treasury Notes and Bank of England Notes ceased to be legal tender.

ON THE 29TH DECEMBER, 1920, THE CURRENCY NOTES ORDINANCE, 1920.

This made provision for the issue of currency notes by the East African Currency Board on behalf of the Government, to be expressed in terms of florins or pounds at the rate of ten florins to the pound.

ON THE 29TH DECEMBER, 1920, THE BANK OF ENGLAND AND TREASURY CURRENCY NOTES REPEAL ORDINANCE, 1920, repealed the Ordinance by which Bank of England and Treasury Currency Notes had been made legal tender for any amount at the value of Rs.8.50 for one pound.

ON THE 7TH FEBRUARY, 1921, PROCLAMATION UNDER THE EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA CURRENCY (NO. 2) ORDINANCE, 1920.

One rupee notes of the Government of India ceased to be legal tender.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

A.—TRADE.

The Customs receipts during the financial year amounted to £660,112, and the refunds to £63,609, calculated at fl.10 to £1. The net revenue from Customs duties therefore amounted to £596,503, an increase of £183,944, or 45 per cent., as compared with the previous year, and it includes £45,250 due to an enhanced rate of specific duty on spirituous liquors brought into force on 5th May, 1920, from five florins to fifteen florins per gallon.

Imports.—The total value of commercial imports during the year under review increased from £4,679,304 to £6,911,858. It shows an increase of £2,232,554, or 48 per cent., over the previous year.

Cotton textiles still continue to constitute the most important and largest class of imports. They were valued at £1,353,490, and represent 20 per cent. of the total trade imports. As compared with the previous year, the increase in value is one of £232,069, or 21 per cent., and in quantity the decrease is one of 1,036,902 yards, or 5 per cent., thus giving an average rise in price to the extent of 27 per cent.

The imports of other varieties of cotton fabrics, such as bleached, printed and dyed manufactures, amounted to £433,092, showing an increase of £69,429 over the previous year.

Of these imports, 81·3 per cent. came from the United Kingdom; India occupied the second place, being represented by £43,699, or 10·1 per cent.; Holland the third, being represented by £22,181, 5·1 per cent.

The second largest item in order of value is the group of "Machinery and parts thereof," which form 9 per cent. of the total imports.

Eighty-three per cent. of the total machinery came from the United Kingdom, followed by 12 per cent. from the United States.

The third group in order of value is that of "Vehicles and parts thereof," valued at £468,015, and represents 7 per cent. of the total merchandise. The increase as compared with the previous year is one of £244,479, or 109 per cent.

Importation from the United Kingdom amounted to 59 per cent., and from the United States 29 per cent.

The imports of "Building materials" increased from £112,484 to £377,531, or 236 per cent. as compared with the previous year.

The value of imports of private merchandise (excluding Government and Railway importations, goods in transit, telegraph materials and specie) was distributed among the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries in the proportion of 51 per cent., 26 per cent., and 23 per cent. respectively.

The share of the United Kingdom, prominent as it was in the past years, has since the War increased enormously with a value of £3,516,075.

The imports of £6,911,858 are the highest on record. Had it not been for general trade depression in the latter part of the year under report, the figures would have been still larger.

Exports of Imported Goods.—Consignments of imported foreign goods which are subsequently re-exported to foreign ports are allowed full drawback of duty previously paid.

The trade is chiefly carried on through the port of Mombasa, which continues to act as a receiving and distributing centre between East Africa and the neighbouring territories of Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Italian East Africa, Uganda, and the Belgian Congo.

The re-exports during the year under report receded from £1,136,595 to £685,267, a decrease of £451,328 as compared with the previous year, and represent 10 per cent. of the total imports.

Transit Trade.—The imports under this heading decreased from £1,201,770 to £670,650; the latter amount includes £31,454, being the value of produce imported from the hinterland of the Tanganyika Territory.

Exports.—Prior to April, 1917, Uganda collected its duties on produce, and hence statistics were recorded separately. Since then Kenya and Uganda have become one for Customs purposes, and exports of produce from the two Dependencies are shown under one heading.

Produce from the Tanganyika Territory (formerly German East Africa), the Belgian Congo and the Soudan is registered separately.

The combined exports from Kenya and Uganda during the year amounted to £4,699,498, a rise of £189,003, or 4 per cent., over the previous year.

Cotton heads the list of combined exports from the two Dependencies and represents 67 per cent. of the total value.

As compared with the previous year, there is an increase of 38,528 cwt., or 26 per cent., and £1,056,641, or 49 per cent., in value, which means a rise of 18 per cent. in specific price. The average price in 1916 was 5½d. per lb., while during the year under report it reached to 25d. per lb.

With the exception of 1,615 cwt., which was produce of Kenya, all cotton originated in Uganda.

Fifty-nine per cent. of the total quantity was consigned to the United Kingdom, 35 per cent. to British Possessions, and 6 per cent. to foreign countries.

The second largest item in order of value is coffee, which represents 12 per cent. of the total exports.

The quantity increased from 122,462 cwt. to 158,267 cwt., or 29 per cent., but the value declined from £635,820 to £574,884.

The average declared value was 48s. 5d. during the year under report, as against 69s. 3d. in the previous year.

Eighty-two per cent. of the total quantity was consigned to the United Kingdom, 3 per cent. to the Union of South Africa, and the balance to various countries.

The third largest item of export is the group of grain and oil seeds, representing 448,915 cwt., valued at £275,789.

The increase in quantity is one of 106,571 cwt., or 31 per cent., and in value £23,882, or 9 per cent.

Twelve per cent. of the total quantity was exported to the United Kingdom, and 64 per cent. to British Possessions.

The fourth largest item of export is fibre, valued at £205,710, representing 4 per cent. of the total exports.

The shipments of fibre are classified under the headings of "sisal," "fibre, other sorts," and "flax," representing 114,045 cwt. (£183,683), 5,628 cwt. (£8,787), and 8,094 cwt. (£13,240), respectively.

Shipments of hides and skins, which played a prominent part in the exports in previous years, received a set-back, and the value decreased from £733,204 to £149,339 during the year under report.

Eighty-one per cent. of the total quantity was shipped to the United Kingdom, 15 per cent. to Italy, and 3 per cent. to France.

The quantity of carbonate of soda increased from 210,880 cwt. to 256,579 cwt., but the value decreased from £220,063 to £107,166 during the year under report.

Seven per cent. of the quantity was shipped to the United Kingdom, 26 per cent. to India, 37 per cent. to Norway and Sweden, and 19 per cent. to Japan.

The exports of ivory originating in Kenya and Uganda declined from 1,006 cwt. to 428 cwt. during the year under report.

Twenty-four per cent. of the quantity was shipped to the United Kingdom.

Shipments of rubber show a decrease of 126 cwt., or 5 per cent., in quantity, and £1,367, or 6 per cent., in value as compared with the previous year.

Chillies, a semi-wild crop, thrive exceedingly well in Uganda, 3,793 cwt., valued at £13,735, being exported during the year.

The exports of copra receded from 33,219 cwt., valued at £58,506, to 9,343 cwt., valued at £13,681, during the year under report.

Twenty per cent. of the quantity was exported to the Union of South Africa, 27 per cent. to Zanzibar, and 46 per cent. to France. Besides copra, there was an export of 114,938 coconuts, valued at £835, chiefly to India, the Union of South Africa, and Arabia.

The by-product, coconut fibre, remains practically unutilized, although coir rope, which might be made locally, is being imported from India.

The export of wool declined from 3,071 cwt., valued at £21,864, to 1,362 cwt., valued at £13,345.

Shipments of potatoes amounted to 29,449 cwt., showing a decrease of 2,198 cwt. as compared with the previous year; 5,810 cwt. were shipped to India, 6,698 cwt. to Zanzibar, and 3,073 cwt. to the Union of South Africa.

The exports of mangrove poles (locally known as borities) decreased from £23,204 to £7,550.

Seventy-nine per cent. of the total originated in the Lamu District, 8 per cent. in the Malindi District, and the balance mainly from Vanga and Kismayu.

Seventy-three per cent. of the total was consigned to Arabia, 18 per cent. to India, and the balance to Italian East Africa.

B.—SHIPPING.

Mombasa has been served by five lines of steamers from Europe during the year ending 31st March, 1921,—the Union-Castle, British India Steam Navigation, Messageries Maritimes, Marittima Italiana, and Clan Ellerman Harrison. The Marittima Italiana's service has been increased by extra steamers which now proceed as far as Durban, calling here both ways.

A new line of steamers from Europe, the "Dutch East Africa Line," began to call here in January, and have continued to call monthly. It is expected that this service will be increased.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers still maintain a regular service with Bombay and Durban.

The coast traffic was carried out by the vessels of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw Brothers, and has been fairly regular. The Zanzibar Government steamers also made thirty calls.

III.—INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

A.—INDUSTRIES.

See under Heading IV, Agriculture and Stock-raising.

B.—MINES AND MINERALS.

Considerably more interest has been shown by the general public in mining matters during the past year than has previously been the case.

Nine hundred and seventy-four prospecting licences were issued, and 322 claims registered; of the latter, 166 were gold, and 93 precious stones.

Apart from a small quantity of graphite, no minerals have been produced, except for assay purposes.

A gold rush occurred north of Mount Kenya in April, and a diamond rush near Donyo Sapuk in May of the same year. Activity has now ceased in both localities.

There is every evidence of great prospecting activity, which can be gathered from the fact that from 1912 to 1920 only 81 claims were registered in all, while for the past twelve months the figure is 322.

IV.—AGRICULTURE AND STOCK-RAISING.

A.—GENERAL.

Considerable activity in agricultural development was witnessed in the early part of the year. A number of new settlers arrived to take up agricultural holdings, chiefly under the "Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Ordinance." Much new capital was introduced into the country, estimated at £4,000,000 between March, 1920, and February, 1921. The effect of this was to create a sense of prosperity, but towards the close of the year depression set in,

the influx of fresh capital ceased, primary products could only be sold at greatly reduced prices, and in some cases, notably in that of flax, trade had become so stagnant that land could not be sold even at low prices. Nor at any time when values had greatly decreased was relief obtained in the high costs of marketing through a reduction in ocean freights, which in several cases represented too high a proportion of the selling price of the product.

The first impression made upon the producer by these reduced values was that in some cases the Colony's chief agricultural products could no longer be produced at a profit. The abnormally high prices, which ruled during the War and for some time afterwards created rather false hopes, were responsible for an outlay in capital expenditure and working costs which, in the light of subsequent events, was not justified. In some cases, too, land was bought at a price too high to enable it to be made a sound proposition, notably in the case of holdings upon which development had already taken place and which had reached the producing stage. The period of depression will not be without its benefits if it has taught land-holders and managers the lesson of economy. There is already evidence that that result has been achieved, and costs of production have been much reduced. In the end, the question of agricultural production in Kenya will resolve itself into whether or not the Colony can compete with other countries on the oversea markets. The advantages which it possesses in respect of soil fertility, favourable climatic conditions, and cheap unskilled labour can only point to the conclusion that in respect of its main crops the settler can compete favourably with producers in other countries of coffee, sisal, maize, flax, and certain oil-seeds, provided always that he is not handicapped by railway and ocean freights. The trade in agricultural exports is passing through a somewhat difficult, unsatisfactory, but, it is hoped, transient stage. The practice of the producer shipping his own produce directly or indirectly obtains to a degree which is not in the best interests of the agricultural industry. Under these conditions more capital is required or has to be raised to finance the proposition, and the view is held that the farmer should concern himself solely with the production of the primary product and that marketing of it should remain in the hands of those who understand the business. Not until the farmer is able to sell his produce at its full market value, delivered, say, f.o.r. at his station, and receives payment in cash when the goods are delivered, will the trade be on a satisfactory basis.

The scale of production has hitherto been so limited that firms have not been disposed to establish buying agencies in this Colony, but there is evidence of a movement in this direction, and it may be expected that conditions and facilities offered will improve in the future.

In respect of certain products, *e.g.*, bacon and dairy produce, the Colony has recently reached the stage when it has been able

to satisfy local demands, and there is a small and growing surplus available for export. Here again a difficulty obtains which can only be overcome when the volume of the trade increases and becomes substantial. In the case of dairy products it is desirable that consignments of uniform and reliable quality be exported, but in the absence of central or co-operative butter and cheese factories this cannot be achieved. The bacon industry is in a fair way to establish an export trade. During this transition period such markets as can be secured in supplies to ships and to ports along the eastern coast are being developed, but the demand from these quarters is comparatively small.

Economic Surveys.—Economic surveys were made of the areas covered by the projected new railway lines from Nakuru to Soy and from Thika to Nyeri.

The Agricultural and Horticultural Society.—A successful show of agricultural products was held at Nakuru. The Society has undertaken the compilation and publication of a "Stud Book" for the different classes and breeds of pure-bred farm live stock, and the first volume has been published.

Agricultural Census.—The Statistical Ordinance of 1918 was applied in respect of agricultural, dairying and pastoral industries, and a Statistical Branch of the Department was created. The first report on the Agricultural Census has been published.

The total area of land available for European settlement was 6,060,000 acres on 30th June, 1920. On that date 3,157,400 acres, or 52 per cent. of the total, were in occupation. Since then there has been a considerable increase in the area occupied. The total area under cultivation was on that date 176,290 acres, representing 5.58 per cent. of land occupied and 149 acres of cultivated land per occupier. It should be noted that large tracts of land are devoted solely to stock-raising.

The total number of European owners, occupiers or managers in occupation of land, and owners of live stock, was 1,182 on 30th June, 1920. A number of new "soldier settlers" to whom land was allotted in 1919 are not included. The total number would appear to be small, but it should be noted that partnerships, syndicates and companies working one or more holdings are enumerated singly for purposes of this census.

Agricultural Legislation.—The Cleansing of Cattle Ordinance passed its third reading in 1920, but in the absence of funds out of which loans could be granted for the construction of dipping tanks, as provided in the Ordinance, it cannot be put into operation. A Bill dealing in comprehensive manner with the grading and inspection of agricultural export produce has been introduced into the Legislative Council. For financial reasons it was found impossible to apply the Coconut Preservation, Coconut Trade, and Native Liquor Ordinances. Attention is being given to a revision of the Diseases of Animals Ordinance of 1906 and 1908, and the

rules thereunder. Steps are being taken to draft an Agricultural Pests Ordinance, which will deal with the control and eradication of plant diseases and insect pests, and will provide means for the inspection of nurseries and plantations.

B.—CROPS.

In respect of crop yields and quality the farming year under review has varied considerably in different areas of the country.

The area under the principal crops on land in European occupation on 30th June, 1920, was as follows:—

	Acres.		Acres.
Maize	82,109	Wheat	4,613
Sisal	30,698	Barley	586
Coffee	27,813	Oats	484
Flax	24,174	Beans and Peas	925
Wattle	11,565	Potatoes	177
Coconuts	9,272	Lucerne	342
Sugar-cane	691	Rubber	2,381
Cotton	459	Fruit	2,081

Coffee.—The earlier crop of coffee was abundant and of high quality, but on account of dry conditions and tree exhaustion the later crop was light and of low quality. The actual yield of “clean” coffee for the year 1919-20 was 71,970 cwt.

Flax.—Generally throughout the Colony the flax crop was good, but in some districts considerable areas suffered from caterpillars. The expectation of high prices caused a large increase in the area of flax sown. As at 30th June, 1920, 24,174 acres were sown with this crop. During the previous twelve months 9,297 acres had been sown and harvested. The average yield per acre from that area was:—

Flax	1.70 cwt.
Tow	2.35 „
Linseed	1.32 bags of 180 lb.

Sixty-eight flax mills, representing 1,274 scutching wheels, have been erected to deal with the crop. A great deal of capital has been invested in the flax industry, but on account of the depression in the flax trade further progress has been arrested, and many growers have deferred the scutching of the previous season's crop.

Maize.—The crop of maize harvested at the end of 1919 and early in 1920 was probably a record one for the Colony. A surplus of 164,000 bags was exported for the year ending June, 1920. Unfortunately, the yield from the 1920-21 crop in the chief area of European production was low, and the surplus available for export in that year from both European and native areas was considerably reduced. For the year ending June, 1921, 75,000 bags of maize were exported. From an area of 32,167 acres planted and harvested during the year ending 30th June, 1920, the high average yield of 9.87 bags (200 lb.) per acre was obtained.

Sisal.—The total area under this crop at 30th June, 1920, was 30,698 acres, of which 16,693 acres were under three years of age. Twenty-one sisal factories, with a capacity of 52·5 tons of fibre per diem, have been established. During a period when prices fell considerably, production in the factories was restricted, but growers have given close attention to reducing costs of production, and the industry now seems to be fairly profitable, despite the fall in values.

Wheat.—The wheat crop did not suffer as much as in other years from rust, and consequently the yield was higher and the quality better than usual. During the year ending 30th June, 1920, 5,614 acres had been harvested, but a further area of 4,613 acres had been sown as at that date. Within the farming year the total area sown with this crop was about 10,000 acres. The average yield from the areas harvested was only six bushels (loads) per acre, the low yield being due chiefly to rust and drought, which were prevalent in many districts. The succeeding crop harvested during the period under review gave a higher yield, but in regard thereto figures are not yet available. The local production of wheat is short of the present needs for consumption by about 60,000 bags. The difficulty at present is not one primarily of production but of milling.

Beans and Peas.—The export trade fell off considerably on account of the heavy drop in prices, but with lower costs of marketing attention may again be given to these useful rotation crops.

Sugar-cane.—An area of land extending to 6,000 acres and situated near Kibos has been alienated for the purpose of sugar production, and a mill is about to be erected of a capacity sufficient at least to meet the total needs of the Colony and neighbouring territories in respect of “crystallized sugar.”

Coconuts.—As at 30th June, 1920, 421,186 coconut palms were planted in European-owned plantations. For the most part they had not yet reached the bearing stage, but within the next few years there should be a considerable increase in the production of copra. The area under coconuts in the hands of non-Europeans is considerable.

Cotton.—The high prices ruling for cotton in 1919 and early in 1920 caused some attention to be given to this crop by European farmers, and 459 acres had been planted at 30th June, 1920.

Citrus and other Fruits.—Fruit-growing is receiving comparatively little attention. The demand is restricted to the needs for local consumption.

The manufacture of lemon squash and lime-juice was started, but unfortunately the enterprise was not successful and operations ceased. Efforts are, however, being made to manufacture citric acid in a concentrated form for export, and there is promise that growers of lemons and limes, who are not far distant by road or rail from the factory, will find a ready market for these fruits.

Labour Supply.—The average number of native labour employed monthly on European holdings during the year ending 30th June, 1920, was 45,005 men, 3,917 women, and 4,787 children; total, 53,709.

C.—NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

It will be understood that native agricultural production can only be estimated. The estimates furnished by District Officers in respect of produce sold by non-Europeans are as follows:—

Maize	...	...	...	...	...	...	750,000 bags
Sorghums, Millets, etc., M'tama	...	...	...	...	...	...	475,000 "
Sim-sim	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,000 "
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,200 "
Other grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	490,000 "
Pulse	...	...	...	...	...	...	200,000 "
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,000 "
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000,000 lb.
Copra	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500 cwt.
Bananas	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000,000 bunches.

The remarkable fertility of the soil of the areas comprising the native reserves is evidence of great potential production. Considering that, exclusive of the pastoral area of fully nine million acres, the area occupied by the native tribes is approximately eight times as great as that in European occupation, viz., 24,280,000 acres and 3,157,000 acres respectively, it will be seen that in order to develop the agricultural resources and wealth of the Colony and Protectorate it is essential that native agriculture should be fostered.

In any circumstances progress must inevitably be comparatively slow among tribes which have so recently come into touch with civilization and whose methods and outlook cannot be easily changed. To succeed in effecting a substantial improvement in native agricultural practice and in increasing production a large number of instructors will be required.

An increase in native production should be directed towards an output of produce which can be exported. Crops such as maize, sorghums and millets, ground-nuts, sim-sim, cotton, beans and peas, fall under that category, while in respect of rice there is large scope for production to satisfy the local demand.

Rice.—A considerable quantity of seed of the best varieties was procured and distributed among native growers. Attention has also been given to growing the crop in the Meru and Kavirondo districts. The coastal belt is undoubtedly capable of producing large quantities of rice, particularly the Tana and Sabaki valleys. Extensive irrigation works and an increase in the present native population would, however, be necessary to make any such scheme practicable.

Cotton.—A large extension of the area under cotton was made in the Kavirondo Native Reserve. A considerable quantity of seed was imported from the United States of America and distributed among growers.

D.—LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY.

Interest has for a few years past chiefly centred around the establishment of a Meat Canning and Freezing Works. Government offered an extensive area of land situated in a good pastoral area, but all attempts to get firms to interest themselves in the project failed, chiefly because of the absence of an assured market for the output of the factory.

Farm accounts prove that the future of the cattle-breeding industry lies in the development of the dairying industry, for which the pastoral and climatic conditions of extensive areas of the settled portion of the Colony are suited, rather than in beef-raising. Sheep-breeding, whether for wool or mutton production, is not likely to be pursued on an extensive scale when compared with certain other countries. The areas suited to sheep are restricted to parts of the Rift Valley and to the plains of West Kenya and northward into hitherto unsettled portions of the Colony. Experience shows that in most flocks there is a heavy mortality from parasitic diseases, and in some seasons blue tongue is a contributory cause. With the facilities now being afforded by Government in respect of blue tongue vaccine and a specific against parasitic diseases the losses should, with good management, be considerably reduced. The demand for horses and mules is so restricted that the breeding of them is not likely to be largely pursued. Pig-breeding, rearing and fattening has made marked progress during the last year. Pigs thrive remarkably well in most parts of the country, though individual owners occasionally suffer a heavy loss from an outbreak of swine fever.

The total heads of stock of different kinds as at 30th June, 1920, was as follows:—

	European owned.	Non-European owned (estimated).	Total.
Cattle	137,604	2,372,037	2,509,641
Horses	1,269	71	1,340
Mules	996	279	1,275
Donkeys	902	31,578	32,480
Camels	—	103,152	103,152
Sheep	101,256	2,426,554	2,527,810
Goats	2,654	3,576,055	3,578,709
Pigs	9,450	—	9,450
Poultry	29,354	—	29,354

E.—VETERINARY SERVICES.

Rinderpest.—Outbreaks of rinderpest on “European” holdings numbered 54, as against 80 in the previous year. In connection with these outbreaks 7,726 head of cattle were either “double inoculated” or treated with “serum alone.”

In the Kikuyu Reserve, 19,619 head of cattle were double inoculated again, with a low mortality of 9 per cent. A new departure was made in carrying out “double inoculation” against rinderpest and inoculation against pleuro-pneumonia simultaneously. Apparently the results were entirely satisfactory.

Pleuro-pneumonia.—Thirty-six outbreaks of this disease were detected in five districts in the settled areas, and the disease is believed to exist in six of the native reserves. The number of cattle inoculated during the year against pleuro-pneumonia was 44,042. With the use of the “pure culture” vaccine now being used, the mortality has been reduced to about 1 per 1,000.

East Coast Fever.—With the exception of the Northern Frontier District the area of the Colony in which east coast fever is not widely spread is comparatively small, and there is reason to believe that those so-called “clean areas” are liable to become infected. Until dipping is systematically practised throughout the country and circumstances allow the “Cattle Cleansing Ordinance” to be put into operation, it is feared that little progress can be made against this disease.

There is little change to be recorded in respect of other diseases.

Research Division.—Experiments and investigations were undertaken on:—

1. Rinderpest immunization.
2. The utilization of sheep for supplying virulent blood at centres distant from the laboratory.
3. The preparation of Pleuro-pneumonia vaccine in bulk.
4. Immunity conferred by inoculation—Exposure experiment—Pleuro-pneumonia.
5. Serum diagnosis of Pleuro-pneumonia.
6. The preparation of a vaccine against Anaplasmosis of cattle.
7. Swine diseases.
8. Dipping of sheep and goats.
9. Curative treatment of Ulcerative Lymphangitis in equines.

The quantity of sera and vaccines issued during the year amounted to some 303,484 doses.

A noticeable advance has been made in the reduction of losses from inoculations against rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia to a negligible percentage.

F.—ENTOMOLOGY.

Research Work.—Special attention was paid to:—

1. Insects and stored products.
2. Sericulture.
3. Flax caterpillars—particularly regarding measures for combating.
4. Coconut beetle—trapping experiments—life-history.
5. Insects affecting coffee—parasitizing of.
6. Garden crop insects, particularly—
 - The Diamond-back Moth.
 - The Bagrada Bug.
 - The Turnip Saw-fly.
 - Cutworms.

G.—MYCOLOGY.

A number of farms were visited to make observations of conditions prevailing where certain diseases were reported and for the purpose of giving advice.

H.—STOCK AND EXPERIMENT FARMS AND STATIONS.

Naivasha.—A large number of female stock have been culled and sold, and as far as financial provision has permitted they have been replaced by pure-bred stock. A considerable improvement has consequently been effected in the quality of the stock.

Kabete.—Educational.—Courses of instruction in agriculture, including the following subjects:—Agriculture, including special instruction in Coffee, Flax; Stock—Veterinary science, Agricultural chemistry, Entomology, Plant Diseases, Horticulture, Dairying, Building Construction, Medical Hints and Hygiene, were held and were well attended chiefly by newly arrived ex-soldier settlers.

Crops and Experiments.—The main crops of the farm are flax, wheat, maize and coffee. In all, 200 acres are under cultivation.

Stock.—Most of the cross-bred stock has been sold, and there have been established small herds of pure-bred Friesland and Ayrshire cattle, transferred from Naivasha farm, and Berkshire and Large Black Pigs, chiefly imported from South Africa.

Eldoret.—Two holdings in extent 3,510 acres have been reserved for purposes of this farm. Circumstances prevented operations being commenced until November, 1920, when land was cleared for cultivation and a beginning was made in laying out the farm.

Mazeras.—The Mazeras farm, which serves the coastal area, has been remodelled, being laid out in divisional sections and plots. Attention is being paid chiefly to economic plants for native agriculture. At present, varieties of muhogo, m'tama, rice, sugar-cane, bananas, pineapples, sweet potatoes, tobacco, beans and coconuts are under propagation and trial.

Plants and seeds are distributed to both European and native growers.

Kibos.—During the season under review weather conditions were unfavourable at Kibos, but the higher parts of Kavirondo, owing to better rainfall, produced excellent crops.

Special attention is being paid to native food crops, and many varieties are under trial prior to recommending generally what to plant. The crops dealt with comprise beans, chillies, maize, rice, ground-nuts, cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, coffee and fruits.

Distributions of 5,000 lb. of rice seed, 6,000 lb. ground-nuts, and other seeds and plants were made.

There has been established on the farm a lecture-room and housing accommodation for young men from the Native Reserve for the purpose of training them in agricultural practice. Natives of a superior type with some education are being selected, and after two years' training on the Kibos farm will, if required, become native instructors under the Department.

I.—METEOROLOGICAL.

Observations were taken and recorded for 180 "Rainfall Stations" and 21 "Temperature Stations." A Meteorological report for the year 1920 has been compiled and published.

During the year ending March, 1921, 40 new rainfall stations were spread throughout the country, representing 17 districts.

V.—FORESTS.

No new forest areas were proclaimed during the year; certain alterations were made in the forest boundaries, and altogether some 2,000 acres were excluded from the Forest Reserves.

The following estimate of the areas of forest was made:—

Merchantable forest (including bamboo forest)	3,600 sq. miles.
Unprofitable or inaccessible forest	1,500 sq. miles.
Percentage of merchantable forest to agricultural land	7.63 per cent.
Percentage of total land area covered by forest in the Colony	2.06 per cent.

Timber.—The local timber trade was brisk at the commencement of the year, but owing to the general financial depression it slackened considerably. In spite of the slackness of trade prices for local timbers were well maintained.

Saw-mills.—Three new saw-mills were set up in the Government forests during the year, and at the end of the year there were twenty-four mills operating in the forests.

Empire Timber Exhibition.—A collection of twenty-one different timbers of the Colony was exhibited in the Exhibition held in London in July. Much interest was evinced by visitors to the Exhibition in the Kenya Colony timbers and especially in the pencil cedar wood.

Bamboos for Paper Pulp.—A consignment of 500 culms of bamboo having been sent to the Imperial Institute for investigation as a source of paper-pulp material, a very promising report was received, and further investigations as to the growth and areas available for exploitation were in progress at the end of the year.

Silviculture.—A total area of 1,045 acres was planted. A largely increased area was planted with the more valuable indigenous timber trees in mixture with eucalypts; the results of this method so far obtained fully justify its general adoption in all the highland forests.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

A.—RAILWAYS.

The estimates for the year's working were based on the assumption that additional revenue would accrue from the introduction of revised rates, but, as it was not thought advisable to increase the rates to the extent considered necessary, the revenue obtained fell considerably short of the amount estimated. The estimates provided for an expenditure of £1,067,488, and a gross revenue of £1,409,974. The actual expenditure for the year amounted to £958,908, and the total revenue was £1,114,825.

The net earnings for the year were £155,916, an increase of £62,043, as compared with the net earnings of 1919-20. They represent a profit of 2·19 per cent. on the capital cost of the railway and steamer service, as against 0·894 per cent. in 1919-20 and 2·33 per cent. in 1918-19.

The total tonnage handled was 258,997, as against 233,844 in 1919-20.

The total goods receipts were £524,022, as compared with £507,898 in 1919-20.

Coaching receipts increased from £211,556 to £253,823.

The tonnage carried by lake steamers decreased from 26,881 carried in 1919-20 to 22,360 during 1920-21.

Two steamers were running on regular services, and these, supplemented by the use of tugs and lighters, proved sufficient for the traffic offering.

The mileage run during the year amounted to 65,075, as against 71,598 during 1919-20.

Owing to the small amount of traffic the s.s. "Sybil," "Nyanza," and "Winifred" were laid up for the whole of the year.

B.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The Kenya and Uganda Post and Telegraph Services comprise 126 Post Offices and Agencies, of which 99 are in Kenya and 27 in Uganda. There are 42 Money Order Offices and 122 Telegraph Offices.

The Total Post and Telegraph Revenue of the two countries amounted approximately to £135,879, as compared with £139,027

for the year 1919-20. Departmental Expenditure (including an approximate capital expenditure of £5,027 on new telegraph and telephone lines) was approximately £150,505, as compared with £132,817 for the year 1919-20.

Postal Matter.—The number of letters, post cards, newspaper and book packets dealt with during 1920-21 is estimated at 6,279,468, of which 1,047,542 were official letters. The total represents a decrease of 12 per cent. as compared with the estimated returns for the year 1919-20.

Parcel Post.—117,965 parcels were dealt with, as compared with 98,569 in the preceding year. The increase of 20 per cent. is due to the trade revival, which was particularly marked during the early part of the year but fell away towards its close. The value of parcels imported from abroad was £302,498, as compared with the total of £284,763 for the previous year. Customs duty collected at Post Offices amounted to £30,239.

Post Office Savings Bank of Kenya.—The number of deposits made was 4,765, as against 6,600 for the year 1919-20, a decrease of 28 per cent. The amount deposited was £67,051, as compared with £109,423 (fl.10=£1) for the preceding year. This falling off in the number and amount of deposits is attributed to the existence of more attractive investments elsewhere. Withdrawals numbered 2,959 and amounted to £108,133, as compared with 3,430 and £121,411 during the preceding year. On the 31st March, 1921, the number of active accounts was 2,491, representing deposits to the total of £46,845 and an average of £13 per account. The corresponding figures for 31st March, 1920, were 3,463, £86,623, and £25.

Telegraphs.—The number of inland telegrams forwarded during 1920-21 was 257,255, and the number of cablegrams 51,098. Of these messages 57,086 and 3,028 respectively were forwarded on behalf of Government Departments.

Telephones.—Fifty-seven extensions to existing telephone exchanges were made.

VII.—ADMINISTRATION.

A.—EUROPEAN AREAS.

Soldier Settlers.—A large number of soldier settler allottees have taken up their farms in the highlands during the period under review.

Labour Supply.—The supply of labour appears to be satisfactory for the present; a new source of supply has appeared for the East Uasin Gishu by the Marakwet and Elgeyo tribes coming out to work. The initial average wage paid to agricultural labourers is fl.4 per month with food.

B.—NATIVE AREAS.

Administration.—The administration of the native reserves has been put into the hands of a Chief Native Commissioner, who is directly responsible to the Governor.

Land.—Considerable progress has been made in the definition of native reserves, and rules for their internal control are under consideration.

Health and Medical.—There has been no serious outbreak of disease during the period under review. A policy of subsidising medical missions has been extended, and missionary societies have been financially assisted in the institution of medical training schools; there is a marked advance in the work done in native reserves.

Education.—Similarly in education, missionary societies have been stimulated to increased endeavours by capitation grants from Government, and marked progress has been made in Government schools.

Forestry.—Afforestation has been started in the Machakos reserve, and natives of various tribes are being trained in forestry work with a view to spreading a knowledge of its importance through the reserves.

Agriculture.—The native industries are primarily agricultural and pastoral. As far as the Colony's finances permit steps are being taken in the direction of encouraging more modern methods of agriculture and the growing of valuable crops.

Trade.—The trade depression prevailing has resulted in a lack of demand for native products.

Labour.—Due largely to this depression the supply of labour has been greater than the demand throughout the greater part of the period under review.

Missions.—There has been no increase in the number of mission stations.

Departmental—Labour Inspection.—Instructions have been drafted for the care of labour employed by Government Departments. Rest camps are being constructed, and attempts made generally to improve conditions of travel. A considerable amount of inspection work, particularly in fuel-cutters' and other contractors' camps, has been undertaken.

Registration of Natives.—This measure has had a marked effect in reducing desertions and generally steadying employment.

There has been a certain amount of opposition to the measure, but, as a passport, the registration certificate which has to be taken out once only during the native's life imposes on him far fewer restrictions than any system of periodically renewable passes.

VIII.—CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

A.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Public Health of the Colony and Protectorate during 1920 again showed an improvement on that obtaining during the War and post-war conditions.

Plague.—Plague problems become increasingly urgent. Epidemics occurred in North Kavirondo, the Kikuyu Reserve, and Mombasa. An organized campaign of rat destruction has been put into operation.

In Kisumu, 41 cases occurred with 28 deaths; 19 of the cases were infected in the town, but the rest were imported. 51,284 inoculations were performed and 12,834 rats killed.

In North Kavirondo it is estimated that at least 1,500 people died of this disease during the year. 38,532 inoculations were done in this district.

Plague appears to be enzootic in the Kyambu District near Nairobi. Cases which occurred in Nairobi from November onwards represent the results of the spread of the epizootic into the town, where by the end of the year 25 cases occurred. Twenty-one cases were also admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital from outside the township. 33,000 inoculations were performed in Nairobi, and 7,859 rats trapped.

In Mombasa there were 408 cases and 43,030 inoculations; 152 of these cases occurred among up-country immigrants. Rat destruction has been unsuccessful in Mombasa.

Malaria.—Though this disease occurs throughout the Colony and Protectorate, it is only in the coastal belt, in certain parts of the Nyanza Province bordering on the lake-shore, and in the valleys of the larger rivers, that it is a serious factor affecting the prosperity and development of the population.

Enteric.—Twenty cases occurred among Europeans, but with no deaths; 7 were in Nairobi, as compared with 35 in 1919.

Dysentery.—There was a notable diminution of cases of dysentery, especially in Nairobi.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.—Occurred only sporadically.

Typhus.—Though undoubtedly present in the country for some years, typhus or a typhus-like disease was first diagnosed during the year. One case was fatal.

Water Supplies.—The most pressing problems are the increase and treatment of the Nairobi supply and the provision of a better supply for Kisumu. Filtration, and possibly subsequent sterilization by means of liquid chlorine apparatus, will be necessary before any satisfactory result can be achieved.

Native Reserves.—Increase of staff of medical officers has enabled a start to be made in the scheme for medical facilities in the Native Reserves. The policy is being adopted of attacking the infectious diseases of the country at the root rather than to treat cases only in the various townships to which disease has penetrated.

The system consists in the provision of a central hospital with small dispensaries situated in the denser centres of population. By the end of the year two Government centres had been opened with (in North Kavirondo) nine dispensaries.

The Scotch Mission is also doing medical work of great value among the Akikuyu with the aid of a Government subsidy.

Public Health Ordinance.—A comprehensive Public Health Bill has been passed.

IX.—EDUCATION.

A.—ADMINISTRATION, INSPECTION, ETC.

Board of Education.—The Board consisted of seventeen members representing all interests. The Director of Education acted as Chairman and the Senior Inspector of Schools as Secretary. The Board at present has no executive powers and acts as an advisory body to the Governor. All matters bearing on educational policy in Kenya are referred to the Board of Education.

Schools.—The schools under the control of the Education Department include Government Schools for European, Indian, Arab, and Native children, assisted private schools for Europeans and Indians, assisted Mission schools for Natives, and Police schools.

Inspection.—All schools were inspected or examined by the Director of Education and the Senior Inspector of Schools.

The Inspector, Coast Education, was responsible for education in the coastal area, and the Head Masters at Machakos and Eldoret controlled and inspected the schools in their districts.

B.—STATISTICS AND FINANCE.

Number of Pupils.—The average number of pupils on the rolls of schools has increased by 25·4 per cent. in the case of European children, 29·5 per cent. in the Indian schools, and 106 per cent. in the Arab and Native schools, including Police and Apprentices in Government-aided Mission schools.

Revenue showed a slight increase over last year.

Expenditure.—The only items of expenditure which showed an increase were salaries and allowances, grants-in-aid and contingencies.

C.—LITERARY EDUCATION.

European Schools: (1) *Nairobi European School*.—The number of pupils has increased by about thirty. The work of the school has been fairly satisfactory, and pupils will be entered in 1921 for the Cambridge University Local Examinations.

Two new class-rooms were erected and slight structural alterations were made.

(2) *Nakuru European School*.—There was a slight increase in the number of pupils. There is a long waiting list of children who cannot be accommodated until the new school is completed. The work of the school was satisfactory. The new school building has been under construction for three months.

(3) *Central School, Eldoret*.—This school showed an increase of 14 pupils. The progress made during the year was fair. Staff quarters for four Assistant Mistresses were erected, and a School Hospital was also completed.

D.—ASSISTED PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND UNASSISTED MISSION SCHOOLS.

(a) *Nairobi High School*.—A Boarding and Day School for girls and boys under 8. The number of pupils increased from 14 to 34. The work of the school was satisfactory.

(b) The Parklands and Kilimani Kindergarten Schools were opened towards the end of the year. Each school has about 15 pupils and has started satisfactorily.

Indian Schools.—(a) *The Nairobi Indian School* had 223 pupils as against 167 last year, and has done satisfactory work.

(b) *The Mombasa Indian School* showed 176 pupils in place of 141 last year, and the work done was satisfactory.

Arab and Native Schools.—*Coastal Area*.—The number of pupils at the Arab School, Mombasa, remained the same as last year, but there was an increase in the number attending the Coastal Vernacular Schools.

At the Malindi School, endowed by the Honourable Sheikh Ali bin Salim, the number increased from 18 to 35.

The work in all the schools was satisfactory.

Police Schools.—These schools did good work, and there was a decided increase in the number of Police attending.

Grants-in-Aid.—Grants for Education were given to the Nairobi High School and the Parklands and Kilimani Kindergarten Schools.

Grants-in-Aid of Technical Education were made to Missions. Grants for Literary Education were made to the Police Schools.

E.—TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR NATIVES.

Administration.—The Chief Technical Instructor Machakos acted as Inspector of Native Technical Education.

Machakos Industrial School.—The number attending this school increased from 70 to 88. In technical work the progress made was good.

Mission Technical Schools.—The number of apprentices in the four Mission Technical Schools at Maseno, Kikuyu, Tumu Tumu, and Kakamega increased from 195 to 400.

The work done at Maseno was particularly good.

Normal Schools.—Normal Schools for Teachers under European Principals were carried on by the Church Missionary Society at Mombasa and Maseno, and by the Church of Scotland Mission at Kikuyu. The work done in these schools was good.

Unassisted Mission Schools.—In addition to the assisted schools the Missions, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, have maintained their progress in all Provinces. It is estimated that more than 30,000 children are in attendance at the various Mission, Central, and Village Schools.

X.—LAND AND SURVEYS.

A.—LAND.

Alienation of Land.—The total number of grants made during the calendar year 1920 was 74, totalling 392,346 acres, compared with 118 grants during the previous year, comprising 181,502 acres. Of these 74, 51 represent grants in substitution of licences, agreements, old leases and conveyances of farms and plots and subdivisional new leases issued in exchange for titles under the Crown Lands Ordinance, 1915, so that the actual number of new grants was only 23, comprising 14,123 acres; as these included 10 old claims now finally settled, 13 new grants only were made of residential, business, factory, lodge and godown plots.

Land available for Allotment.—Practically all the available land was thrown into the Ex-Soldier Settlement Scheme and allotted, except a small percentage. As the time for compulsory occupation has been extended it is not yet possible to state how many farms will be ultimately relinquished and rendered available for future allotment.

B.—SURVEYS.

During the year the Field Staff has been engaged in completing the survey of the Soldier Settlement farms, Coast Titles Surveys, Road and Township Surveys, and small isolated surveys.

C.—REGISTRATION.

The revenue derived from this Division during the year, amounting to £50,386, shows that there was exceptional activity in the land market during the year.

XI.—GAME PRESERVATION.

Revenue from Licences showed a distinct improvement from £5,595 to £9,279. The number of Residents' and Landholders' Licences showed a large increase from 475 to 618 and Sportsmen's Licences from 15 to 18.

Game Reserves.—Reports from the Reserves are satisfactory.

Principal Game Districts.—Reports from Districts have been on the whole satisfactory, though the drought has considerably upset the movements of game in most of them.

General.—Rapid settlement of the country is driving the game back into the out-districts, otherwise the outlook is good. No species can be said to be in any danger of extermination.

The drop in the price of the rhinoceros horns has tended to reduce the temptation to poach this animal. Zebra, in spite of their removal from the Game Schedule, continue to exist in large numbers and do considerable damage. Elephants are increasing in the Northern Reserve, and continue to do some damage to crops.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total of the expenditure of the Department amounted to £303,305, a figure which is 10 per cent. in excess of that of any previous year. In addition to this, further works and services, among which a notable item is the transport expenditure of the Service, were either undertaken or supervised by the Department, and in this connection the Accounts Branch had to scrutinize and pass additional accounts to the value of £103,347, the total value of the year's accounts thus being £406,652.

No individual work of any considerable importance was undertaken, though a contract was let, and work started, for a boarding house at Nakuru School at a cost of £9,700. The aggregate amount spent on works carried out departmentally was £20,090.

A marked degree of improvement was effected in the maintenance and repair of public roads and bridges, on which a sum of £72,789 was spent; and pioneer roadwork was undertaken to improve access to Soldier Settlement farms.

Eight permanent bridges were constructed and the coast ferries were improved; a further small extension of metalled surface was added to the Coast Road north of Mombasa.

The Mombasa Water Supply was maintained at a cost of £1,322. The revenue accruing from the sale of water in Mombasa Island amounted to £13,503. The usual annual instalment of interest and sinking fund on loan money was paid (£4,050).

The number of Government buildings available for the offices and quarters of the staff of the Colony remained inadequate throughout the year, and private premises had to be hired in a large number of localities at a total cost of £18,514.

The Animal Transport Branch, in addition to a large volume of routine work connected with the transfer and movements of officials, handled in Nairobi 99,538 packages or loads, 1,334 tons of sand, lime and other material, undertook local delivery of perishable goods to the hospitals and fuel supplies to Mathari Asylum; cleared and delivered to the General Post Office 17,850 mail-bags and despatched 13,546; and handled without mishap all movements of specie between Banks and Treasury and Railway.

The Mechanical Transport Branch put a further 38 cars into commission, the entire fleet by the end of the year numbering 113. The majority of these were only reconditioned military cars, bought at salvage sales, and their operation was not as economical as could be desired, the average cost of cars and lorries being 1.24 shilling per car mile. This was on an estimated total run of 265,482 miles, speedometers not being available for attachment to all cars and lorries.

A motor mail service from Eldoret through Soy to Hoey's Bridge (32 miles) was opened on 23rd October, 1920, and an additional service from Kisumu to Hoey's Bridge (138½ miles) was instituted on 20th February, 1921, making two double journeys each week.

The Training Depot for African apprentices, which had been seriously interfered with during the war period, was restarted in new premises.

XIII.—POPULATION.

EUROPEAN POPULATION.

The estimated European population of the Kenya Colony and Protectorate on 31st December, 1920, was 7,660. The Census taken in April, 1921, shows that this was an under-estimate, the total Europeans enumerated at the Census amounting to 9,651. This total of 9,651 comprised :—

4,736 adult males.
2,798 adult females.
1,064 males under 16.
1,058 females under 16.

And the following nationalities :—

British	...	...	...	9,025	persons.
American	...	...	...	159	„
Italian	...	...	...	148	„
French	...	...	...	77	„
Russian	...	...	...	62	„
Swedish	...	...	...	47	„
Other	...	...	...	188	„

Occupations were as follows :—

Government officials	...	...	...	...	956
Military	...	...	...	...	102
Settlers and farmers	...	...	...	...	1,893
Professional	...	...	...	...	204
Commercial	...	...	...	...	937
Industrial	...	...	...	...	559
Personal service	...	...	...	...	182
Missionaries	...	...	...	...	237

NON-EUROPEAN POPULATION.

(Non-Native.)

Excluding natives the estimate of the non-European population as at 31st December, 1920, totalled 30,685. The Census in April, 1921, showed 35,982 enumerated, of which

Indians	...	...	...	...	22,822
Goans	...	...	...	...	2,431
Arabs	...	...	...	...	10,102
Others	...	...	...	...	627

The principal occupations of the non-Europeans were stated to be as follows :—

	Indians.	Goans.	Arabs.
Government and railway servants	2,482	638	84
Commercial	3,942	426	1,326
Industrial	3,024	357	190
Personal service	726	268	1,475

NATIVE POPULATION.

No Census of the native population has been taken. The total number is estimated at 2,330,112.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

11 12
13 14
15 16

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1123.

BRITISH GUIANA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920, see No. 1109.)



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No. 1123.

BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1921.

SITUATION AND AREA.

The Colony of British Guiana, which it is interesting to note is the only British Possession on the South American continent, lies between the first and ninth degrees of north latitude and the fifty-seventh and sixty-first degrees of west longitude, and has a seaboard of roughly 270 miles extending from near the mouth of the Orinoco River on the west to the Corentyne River on the east. The Colony is bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south and south-west by Brazil, on the east by the Dutch Colony of Surinam, and on the west by Venezuela, and is divided into the three counties of Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice. It has an area of approximately 90,000 square miles, of which only about 275 square miles along the coast and up the rivers is cultivated.

CLIMATE.

The climate is hot, but not unhealthy. The mean temperature throughout the year is 80.5° F., the mean maximum being about 85° F., and the mean minimum 75° F. The heat, which is greatly tempered by cooling breezes from the sea prevailing during the greater portion of the year, is felt more from July to October than at other times, owing to the partial cessation of these breezes. There are annually two wet seasons, from June to the end of August and during December, January and February. The annual rainfall for the past seventy-two years averages about 93 inches in Georgetown. The rainfall in 1921 was 106.73 inches.

HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

The Colony was first partially settled between 1616 and 1621 by the Dutch West India Company, who erected a fort and depot at Fort Kyk-over-al in the present County of Essequibo. In 1624 a settlement was founded on the Berbice River by Van Peere, a Flushing merchant, under licence from the Company. The first English attempt at settlement was made by Captain Leigh on the O'apock River (now French Guiana) in 1604. The effort, though followed up by Robert Harcourt in 1613 and 1627, failed to establish a permanent

settlement. Lord Willoughby, famous in the early history of Barbados, also turned his attention to Guiana, and founded a settlement in Surinam in 1663, which was captured by the Dutch in 1667, and ceded to them at the Peace of Breda in exchange for New York. The Dutch retained their hold on the three colonies with more or less firmness, now yielding to England, now to France or Portugal, till 1796, when during the war of the French Revolution they were captured by a British fleet sailing from Barbados. The territory was restored to the Dutch in 1802, but in the following year was retaken by Great Britain, and finally ceded to that Power in 1814.

The Constitution, as it existed up to 1891, may be summed up very briefly. It consisted of a Governor, a Court of Policy, and a Combined Court. The functions of an Executive and Legislative Council and House of Assembly were performed by the Governor and Court of Policy, except as regards taxation and finance, which were and still are dealt with by the Combined Court, composed of the Governor and Members of the Court of Policy, together with six Financial Representatives. The Court of Policy makes all laws and ordinances, except the Annual Tax and Customs Duties Ordinances which are passed by the Combined Court.

During 1891 an Act was passed, which came into force in 1892, effecting a considerable change in the Constitution. By this Act the administrative functions of the Court of Policy have been transferred to an Executive Council, and the duties of the former become purely legislative.

The Combined Court has the power of (1) imposing the Colonial taxes and auditing the public accounts, and (2) discussing freely and without reserve the items on the Annual Estimates prepared by the Governor. The first of these powers is the birthright of the Combined Court, having been bestowed in 1796, when Governor Beaujon called the Financial Representatives into being "with a right of voting only for the raising of Colonial taxes and not further"; while the second is conferred periodically by His Majesty's Order in Council after each renewal of the Civil List and is co-existent with the Civil List. The Civil List was renewed for five years from the 1st January, 1918.

The Court of Policy, under the new Constitution, consists of the Governor, seven official members, and eight elected members. It may be prorogued or dissolved at any time by the Governor and, in any case, is dissolved at the end of five years, and a general election must be held within two months of the date of dissolution. The number of Financial Representatives, who with the Court of Policy form the Combined Court, remains unchanged (six).

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Trade throughout the Colony during the year 1921 was subjected to severe depression, due to the collapse of the sugar industry toward the end of 1920, when prices fell to a level which was below the cost

of production. The public revenue of the Colony was in consequence severely affected, and the actual receipts fell short of the estimated receipts by £102,613 6s. 8d. and were less than the receipts of 1920 by £179,641 9s. 2d.

The depression in trade naturally affected the volume of shipping coming to and leaving the Colony, so that, while the tonnage entered inwards in 1920 was 449,240, that entered in 1921 amounted to 436,919 tons only. Similarly, while 450,508 tons were entered outwards in 1920, 439,790 tons were cleared in 1921.

Considerable changes were effected in the Customs Tariff with a view to giving increased preference to British trade. In 1920 the Preferential Tariff applied only to certain goods produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom and such Colonies as were parties to the Canada-West Indies Convention, but in 1921 all goods, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the British Empire, were treated preferentially, and the preference of 20 per cent. which was given to the goods specified in the Reciprocity Agreement was raised to 50 per cent. and allowed on all British goods, with the exception of flour, malt liquor, wines and potable spirits, which were allowed a preference of 20 per cent.

Milk, condensed or otherwise preserved, was removed from the table of goods liable to specific duty and added to the list of goods exempted from duty.

The Invoice, Shipping Bill or Specification Tax imposed on the c.i.f. value of all goods, other than wheatened flour, imported or cleared from bond for home consumption and on the f.o.b. value of local produce exported, was raised from 1 per cent. in 1920 to 1½ per cent.

The Export duty collected since 1917 as a special war tax on first sugar, rum, rice, firewood, charcoal and balata produced locally, was discontinued in 1921.

In order to give relief to the sugar industry, the Combined Court approved of the suspension from the 21st August, 1921, until the 31st December, 1922, of the collection of the Colonization tax of 1 per cent imposed on the value of all local products exported. This tax was imposed in 1918 for the purpose of financing future unindentured immigration into the Colony.

The Combined Court completed its term of five years and was prorogued by the Governor on the 1st October, 1921. Writs were issued for a general election, and the new Court was constituted in time to deal with the business of the Annual Session which opened in November.

The results of the Census for 1921 are disappointing. Irrespective of aborigines, the total increase of population is only 1,650. In 1911 there were 11,000 more males than females. In 1921 the excess of males was less than 5,000.

Valuable work in the direction of investigating filariasis has been carried out by a Commission under the direction of Professor Leiper, of the London School of Tropical Medicine. When the report of this Commission is published it is expected that much additional information will be available for dealing with this rapidly spreading disease.

There were no epidemics during the year, and the general health of the Colony was good.

In June a Medical Conference, the first of its kind to be held in the West Indies, was convened in this Colony. Delegates from most of the different West Indian Islands and from the London School of Tropical Medicine attended the Conference. The report of the Conference has not yet been published.

The Colony offers a very wide field for the investment of outside capital. The opening up of the country by the establishment of adequate means of communication and the development of the natural resources which it is known to possess call for the expenditure of large sums of money. Moreover, such established industries as timber, gold, diamonds, bauxite, etc., could be very materially extended if capital and labour were available, and if easier means of communication existed. The raising of cattle on the savannah lands of the Rupununi District is now an established industry, but this also is capable of considerable expansion if money were forthcoming. A railway from Georgetown to join the Brazilian systems would pass through the centre of the Colony along its greatest length, and, besides thus opening up a very large tract of country, might eventually lead to the capital of the Colony—Georgetown—becoming the entrepôt for shipping goods in transit from practically the whole of the South American continent.

A Contour survey has been commenced of the country above the Great Falls on the Demerara River, with a view to ascertaining the possibility of damming the falls and creating a reservoir of such capacity as will enable a good permanent head of water to be maintained for any hydro-electric works that may be installed.

During the year arrangements were made with the Bermuda and West Atlantic Aviation Company, Limited for a flying-boat to visit the Colony for the purpose of demonstrating the practicability and utility of an aerial service; of examining the possibility of using flying-boats on the Demerara, Essequibo and Potaro Rivers; and of taking photographs from the air to show the nature and extent of the more accessible savannah country lying between the Demerara and Essequibo Rivers. Oblique photographs were taken of the savannah lands behind the Supenaam creek, of the delta of the Essequibo River, and of the Hyde Park—Wismar section of the cattle trail from the Rupununi District, and a sample aerial map of Georgetown was also prepared. Unfortunately, the flying-boat, while on a long-distance flight to the Rupununi District, was wrecked, while attempting to rise from the Potaro

River at a place called Kurupukari, by striking on a submerged rock ledge, and it became impossible in consequence to carry out the full programme of works contemplated.

The experiments which were made, however, proved clearly that a flying-boat would be of little use in British Guiana. What is wanted is a seaplane which can rise rapidly from the water, and it is hoped that future experiments may be made with a craft of that kind.

Much needed schemes for the improvement of Georgetown in the direction of

- (a) sewerage and sewage disposal ;
- (b) pure water supply by means of artesian wells ; and
- (c) reconstruction on a permanent basis of the roads of the City

have been prepared, and are estimated to cost £519,333 6s. 8d. It is hoped that, as soon as the prevailing industrial depression lifts, it may be possible for the Municipal authorities to arrange for their commencement.

The year was marked by a very satisfactory expansion of the diamond industry, the export figures rising from 40,000 carats in 1920 to 102,600 carats in 1921. This increase was particularly opportune in view of the general depression existing in almost all of the other industries of the Colony. There is no reason, it would seem, why the production of diamonds in British Guiana should not be maintained, if not yet further developed during 1922.

Immigration from India continued suspended in 1921, but a few hundred East Indians, who had been repatriated, were allowed to return to the Colony, accompanied by a few score who had served in Natal. The year, however, was marked by the appointment of the promised Committee from India (which duly arrived on the 12th February, 1922, and left the Colony on the 7th April) to investigate conditions on the spot and report to the Government of India.

An unusually small number (473) of immigrants embarked for India on the return immigrant steamship of the year. There was, however, the usual traffic to and from the Colony of East Indians in ordinary passenger steamers.

Immigration from Barbados, which showed promise of development, was also interrupted in July for the balance of the year, chiefly by the depression of the sugar industry.

During the past two years several sugar firms have been investigating the possibilities of producing locally motor fuel from waste molasses, and, as a result of the experiments made, certain formulæ for the manufacture of alcohol motor fuel mixtures have been secured. It is claimed that these conclusively prove that a high-grade motor fuel can be manufactured in the Colony from

sugar-cane molasses. One of these firms is now preparing to manufacture power alcohol on a commercial scale, and the Government is assisting the enterprise by temporarily exempting the industry from taxation. This undertaking, if successful, will not only aid the sugar industry in that, owing to the collapse of the world's market for rum, no large quantities of this article are being produced at the present time and the low class molasses is being thrown away, but the manufacture of motor fuel locally will assist the Colony in becoming independent of other countries for fuel supplies for internal combustion engines. Moreover, if mechanical tillage is to be employed to a greater extent in the Colony, there must be a cheap and readily available source of fuel for operating tractors, pumping engines, etc.

It is satisfactory to note that the tourist traffic to the Colony shows signs of increasing. More tourists also are taking advantage of their presence in the Colony to see the great Kaieteur Waterfall. This Fall, which is the highest known Fall in the world to-day, is well worth the moderate cost involved in visiting it, and when quicker means of transport have been provided there can be no doubt that it will attract a large number of people every year to British Guiana.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The birth and death-rates appearing in this Report have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the Colony at the 31st December, 1921, which was 298,188, or 151,439 males and 146,749 females.

There were 10,287 births registered during the year, or 499 more than in 1920, when there were 9,788 births registered, or an increase of 1,850 on the previous year's figures.

The birth-rate for 1921 was 34·5 per 1,000; that for 1920, 31·9 per 1,000; and for 1919, 26·0. The mean rate for the previous five years was 27·6 per 1,000.

The birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the several races representing the community is as follows:—

<i>Races.</i>						
Europeans other than Portuguese	...	...	...	...	...	11·9
Portuguese	...	...	...	...	...	28·0
East Indians	...	...	...	...	...	37·0
Chinese	...	...	...	...	...	25·3
Aborigines	...	...	...	...	...	36·8
Blacks	...	...	...	...	...	32·4
Mixed Races	...	...	...	...	...	37·2
						} 23·8

Of the births registered, 4,066, or 39·5 per cent., were legitimate, and 6,221, or 60·5 per cent., illegitimate.

The deaths registered were 9,200, or 1,321 more than in the previous year, when 7,879 deaths, or 4,498 less than in 1919,

were registered. The death-rate was 30·9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 25·6, the death-rate in 1920, and 40·4 for 1919. The mean rate for the previous five years was 32·8 per 1,000.

The death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of the various races is as follows:—

Races.

Europeans other than Portuguese	...	...	...	17·6	} 28·8
Portuguese	...	...	...	32·7	
East Indians	...	...	...	33·3	
Chinese	...	...	...	17·9	
Aborigines	...	...	...	36·7	
Blacks	...	...	...	30·2	
Mixed Races	...	...	...	22·8	

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age was 2,002, or 195 per 1,000 births for 1921, as compared with 1,453, or 148 per 1,000 births in 1920, and 1,469, or 185 per 1,000 in 1919. The mean rate for the previous five years (1916-1920) was 189 per 1,000 births.

The following table shows the proportion of deaths of the children under 1 year of age of each race to every 1,000 births of each such race for the year under review:—

Races.

Europeans other than Portuguese	...	...	...	79	} 133
Portuguese	...	...	...	141	
East Indians	...	...	...	189	
Chinese	...	...	...	101	
Aborigines	...	...	...	163	
Blacks	...	...	...	216	
Mixed Races	...	...	...	168	

GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1921 amounted to £968,947, falling short of the estimate by £166,616 and of the revenue for the preceding financial year by £301,728.

EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £1,195,846, being £85,386 less than the estimate and £188,846 more than the expenditure for the previous year.

BALANCES.

The Balance Sheet of the Colony on the 31st December, 1920, showed a surplus of assets over liabilities of £442,176, and that of

the 31st December, 1921, a surplus of assets over liabilities of £215,230. The financial transactions of the year thus resulted in a decreased surplus of £226,946.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1920, amounted to £1,144,896. During the year £2,158 were redeemed, but a further loan of £27,500 to meet the cost of Sea Defences and other public works was raised locally, making a total Loan indebtedness at 31st December, 1921, of £1,170,238. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of £325,499.

Subscriptions were invited locally for a loan of £1,041,666 13s. 4d. at 6 per cent. interest for a term of fifty years. At the close of the year £242,052 1s. 8d. had been subscribed and the loan was closed. A fresh prospectus for the unsubscribed balance has since been issued.

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as under :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1917	736,473	733,689
1918	863,625	774,481
1919	862,491	886,568
1920	1,270,675	1,007,047
1921	968,947	1,195,847

BANKS AND BANKING FACILITIES.

Accounts are kept in dollars and cents. British sterling and United States gold coin are current and legal tender.

On the 16th August, 1915, the Combined Court approved of the issue of Government Currency Notes of the face value of \$1=4s. 2d. and \$2=8s. 4d. The first notes were issued in January, 1917; and on the 31st December, 1921, there were notes in circulation to the face value of £166,666 13s. 4d.

The Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada have establishments at Georgetown, with branches at New Amsterdam, Berbice. The Colonial Bank also has branches at Mahaica and Mahaicony on the east coast, Demerara, and at Suddie, Essequibo; and the Royal Bank of Canada has a branch at Rose Hall, Berbice. Both of these banks carry on Savings Bank business not only at their head office in Georgetown but also at their branches at different places in the country.

The first Government Savings Banks were established at Georgetown and New Amsterdam in the year 1836. In November, 1910, the Combined Court passed a resolution approving of the amalgamation of the two banks and authorizing the transfer of the Government Savings Bank to the Post Office on the 1st July, 1911. Savings Bank business is conducted at 51 offices.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

The total value of imports for the year 1921 (including transit trade) amounted to £3,487,608, being £1,691,878 less than the aggregate value of the imports of 1920.

The goods imported may be classified as follows:—

	1920. £	1921. £
1. Food, Drink and Tobacco	1,388,075 ...	967,712
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	514,970 ...	314,620
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	2,797,711 ...	1,946,293
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	18,074 ...	10,846
5. Bullion and Specie	3,859 ...	33,497

The value of the imports (including transit trade) for the past five years averaged £3,872,949 per annum.

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports for the year ended 31st December, 1921, was £3,424,490. This amount includes British and foreign goods re-exported and transhipped during the year, valued at £420,104. The value of the export trade was less than the previous year's transactions to the value of £2,718,508, or a decrease of 44.25 per cent.

The table below shows the value of the exports (excluding transit trade) under the four classes into which they naturally fall:—

	1920. £	1921. £
1. Food, Drink and Tobacco	5,021,893 ...	2,579,533
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	413,050 ...	605,454
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	205,268 ...	146,669
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	3,914 ...	451
5. Bullion and Specie	42,096 ...	92,384

There was a decrease of £2,088,839 in the value of sugar exported in 1921. The quantity was greater than that exported in 1920 by 24,505 tons, the figures for 1921 and 1920 being 108,270 tons, valued at £2,104,144, and 83,765 tons, valued at £4,192,982, respectively.

The quantity of rum shipped during the year was more than the exports of 1920 by 455,994 proof gallons, and the value was more than that of 1920 by £986. The exports for 1921 were 2,228,164 proof gallons, valued at £364,231, as against 1,772,170 proof gallons, valued at £363,246, exported in 1920; 1,976,809 proof gallons of the quantity exported in 1921 went to the United Kingdom.

The value of Colonial produce exported in the last five years averaged £3,808,375 per annum.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

The United Kingdom takes first place with 52·82 per cent. of the aggregate trade of the Colony, Canada is second with 24·22 per cent., and the United States occupies the third place with 13·49 per cent. This distribution of trade is different from the distribution which prevailed immediately prior to the War. In 1914 the Home Country had 57·40 per cent. of the Colony trade, as against 52·82 in 1921; Canada in the former year secured 20·52 per cent., as against 24·22 per cent. in the latter year; whilst the United States advanced their aggregate trade with the Colony from 10·91 per cent. in 1914 to 13·49 per cent. in 1921.

During the Great War a large proportion of trade which had formerly been done by the United Kingdom was diverted to the United States, but since the cessation of hostilities trade conditions with the former country have exhibited a tendency towards gradual improvement, and there is every possibility of greater expansion, provided that the class of goods for which Britain has always been noted can be supplied on the conditions demanded by trade, as the quality of British-made goods is so well known as to place them in the forefront of the world's manufactures. Therefore, with increased production it is reasonable to expect to see great improvement in British trade in the near future.

The aggregate trade done with Canada in 1921 was slightly less than in the previous year, that for 1921 being 24·22 per cent., as against 28·44 per cent. in 1920. Of the total quantity of sugar exported during the year, 54,700 tons went to Canada, and the greater part of the balance of sugar exports went to the United Kingdom.

AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER INDUSTRIES.

The sugar crop of the Colony was 110,985 tons, as compared with 104,069 tons, the average yield of the preceding ten years.

108,270 tons of sugar were exported during 1921, as compared with 83,765 tons during 1920. The returns submitted by sugar estates in the Colony show that in 1921 63,420 acres were under sugar-cane; of this, 37,240 acres were planted with D.625 variety of cane, and only 2,337 acres with Bourbon, whilst there were 9,150 acres with D.625 mixed with Bourbon and other seedlings.

The area planted with rice amounted to 55,911 acres, of which 8,171 acres yielded two crops. The total yield was 49,905 tons of paddy, equal to 29,943 tons of rice. The rice produced was of good quality; 3,026 tons of rice were exported during the year 1921. The very large areas of the front lands of the Colony are pre-eminently suitable for the cultivation of rice.

The acreage under cacao has fallen to 1,176 acres. All the cacao produced was used locally either in the preparation of chocolate

or of confectionery. There is an extensive belt of land in the Colony well suited for cacao, and it is to be regretted that its cultivation is not extending.

Acreage under Para rubber remained stationary at 2,813 acres.

It has been proved that the Para rubber tree grows well on suitable lands in the Colony. Unfortunately, on the lands more suitable for its cultivation it has been severely attacked by the Para rubber leaf disease with, in some places, disastrous effects. The tappings of five-year to ten-year-old trees not affected by disease have proved that yields of dry rubber per tree compared very favourably with those obtained in the Straits Settlements, Malaya and Ceylon, whilst the quality of the product is excellent. Difficulties in obtaining a reliable and cheap labour supply for tapping operations are now very serious, and, with the leaf disease, are the main causes which restricted the area under Para rubber cultivation in the Colony. Should the price of rubber rise, the output will increase.

Tapping experiments at the various experimental stations established by the Government continued to give satisfactory results, both as regards the yield of the trees and the cost of collecting the rubber.

The area reported to be under coffee was 5,030 acres. The export of coffee during the year amounted to 3,617 cwt., as compared with 3,642 cwt. in 1920.

Coconuts are now planted on 26,321 acres of land. The export of nuts was 2,760,000, as compared with 2,621,000 in 1920, while in addition 783 cwt. of copra and 15,934 gallons of coconut oil were exported. By far the greater number of the nuts grown, returned by the growers at 15,648,646, were used locally for the manufacture of oil or directly as food. There is a very wide area of land suitable for the planting of coconuts, on parts of which extension of such planting is being carried on. The yearly crops should greatly increase.

The cultivation of limes was somewhat increased during the year, about 1,100 acres being now occupied by the trees. The small factory for the preparation of concentrated lime-juice, erected by the Government at Onderneeming, Essequibo, has continued to work. 439 cwt. of citrate of lime, 4,175 gallons of lime-juice, and 544 gallons of essential oil of limes were the products exported during the period under report.

There are large areas of land suitable for the raising of cattle. The number in the Colony, including 38,980 estimated to be on the hinterland savannahs, was 122,886 in 1921. Horses are returned at 1,762, sheep at 20,602, goats at 11,642, swine at 12,312, and donkeys at 6,581.

Of the total of 57,266,874 acres comprising the whole of the Colony, the area alienated at the end of 1921 under grants, leases and licences for agricultural, grazing and timber purposes, amounted to a total of 3,142,220 acres.

One hundred and twenty-nine grants were issued, comprising a total area of 1,156 acres, of which 67 embracing an area of 686 acres were issued to returned soldiers.

Three hundred and one leases, comprising 15,504 acres, were issued. Four of these comprised an aggregate area of 9,899 acres, the remainder for the most part being for small areas of an average of 10 acres.

Four leases for grazing purposes, comprising an aggregate area of 236,052 acres, were issued.

The number of licences issued for wood-cutting purposes was 399, embracing an aggregate area of 255,950 acres.

The number of grants and concessions for mining purposes in existence at the end of 1921 was 13, of which 5 were issued during the year. The total number of claim licences (surface washing) in existence at 31st December, 1921, was :—

For gold, 715—of which 169 were issued during the year ;
and

For diamonds, 360—of which 244 were issued during 1921.

Three Exclusive Permissions (to prospect) were issued, bringing the total number of these titles in existence at 31st December last up to 10.

Seven hundred and forty-five general prospecting licences were issued.

Of outstanding interest and importance was the development which took place in connection with the diamond industry, the output for the year having risen from 233,456 stones, weighing 39,362 $\frac{1}{2}$ carats, during 1920, to 507,200 stones, weighing 102,603 $\frac{1}{2}$ carats, of a value, as declared for export purposes, of £329,847.

Owing to the continuance of the general economic depression, there is no development to record in connection with other industries.

Sugar, rum, molascuit, rice, hides, balata gums, citrate of lime, essential oil of limes and coconut oil are the principal exports sent out of the Colony. A certain quantity of leather and cacao is prepared for local consumption. Matches and cigarettes are made, and there is a large and well-equipped ice factory with cold storage accommodation.

One of the three ironwork foundries has good accommodation for the docking and repairing of steamers of small size. There is also a Government dry dock, 160 ft. long and 35 ft. wide.

There are two well-equipped factories in Georgetown which manufacture boots and shoes of all descriptions for the local market. The larger is capable of turning out 600 pairs per week; while the smaller can handle 200 pairs.

Of two biscuit factories, one makes 250 barrels of biscuits per week, and the other 200 barrels.

A very completely equipped factory for the conversion of maize, rice, and other suitable grains and pulses, erected by the Government and worked under the control of a committee of business men, was in operation during the year, but the supplies of raw material offered to the factory were insufficient to enable the factory to work on full time. The flour and other products turned out by this factory are of excellent quality.

During the year the local confectionery business was extended by the establishment of an up-to-date steam plant for making chocolate creams, toffee, numerous varieties of hard-boiled sugar, etc. This concern has absorbed the larger of two plants in the City which have been manufacturing cacao and chocolate for many years.

There are a large number of aerated water factories established in Georgetown and New Amsterdam, and also at different places in the country. These plants manufacture aerated drinks, which find a large and ready sale locally. The machinery for these factories was imported principally from the United Kingdom.

FISHERIES.

There is room for considerable development in several directions, especially in sea-fishing, curing with the aid of ice, and smoking. A fair supply of sea-fish is generally kept at the ice depot, but ice is not generally used. In early times smoked or barbecued paku was obtained from the north-west District of the Colony in large quantities, but is now rarely seen. Salt cod, herrings, and mackerel are imported in quantity, but no Colony fishes are cured. Freshwater fish is obtainable in the markets, but not to the extent desired; in fact, the supply is precarious. Rarely can a particular kind be got to order. The angler may enjoy good sport with tarpon or cuffum, as well as several other fish that are more grateful to the palate. The river-fishing in the interior is exceptionally good. Fish-glue or isinglass from the gilbaker was exported to the amount of 21,067 lb., value £2,441.

Crustaceans, such as crabs and prawns, add much to the food supply in the country districts. Now that imported fish is much higher in price, it appears as if the demand for fresh fish has increased without a corresponding supply, hence prices are generally higher.

LEGISLATION.

There were twenty-three Ordinances passed during the year. Of these the principal enactments are:—

The West Indian Court of Appeal Ordinance, 1921 (No. 2). The object of this Ordinance is to define the matters in which there is an appeal from a single Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony to the West Indian Court of Appeal established by the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919. In civil matters there is no appeal as a general rule from an interlocutory judgment or order, or from any judgment where the amount claimed, or the value of the property, does not exceed £52 1s. 8d. Apart from the exceptions contained in Section 3 (2), there is an appeal from any judgment or order of a single Judge. In criminal cases a Judge of the Court of First Instance may reserve a question of law for the West Indian Court of Appeal. Appeals now go to this Court from a judgment of a single Judge of the Supreme Court pronounced on the hearing of an appeal from a Magistrate's Court. The Ordinance abolishes the Full Court of the Supreme Court as a Court of Appeal.

The Profits Tax Ordinance, 1921 (No. 4), provides the machinery for assessing the duty on profits imposed by the Tax Ordinance, 1921, but the Profits Tax was left out of the Tax Ordinance, 1922 (No. 22), and as a consequence there is no Profits Tax for the current year.

The Plantation Shops Ordinance, 1921 (No. 13), forbids the proprietor or any officer of a plantation to keep or be interested in the profits of any shop or store kept upon any plantation or within five miles thereof, except a proprietor who obtains a licence from the Governor-in-Council, which is revocable at pleasure. All sales shall be for a money payment, but the sale of spirits, malt or wine is forbidden.

The Pensions Ordinance, 1921 (No. 15), amends the provisions as to pensions of public officers. The pensions of officers coming under the Ordinance (namely, those appointed after the coming into operation of the Ordinance and those who, within three months of that time, accept the Ordinance) are to be calculated on the monthly salary for five years before retirement; on the retirement of an officer, or on his death whilst in the service, there shall be paid to him (in addition to any pension) or to his personal representative, a sum equal to one-thirtieth of twice the amount of his annual salary at the time of his retirement or death for every year of service not exceeding thirty years; where the officer has held office in the Colony for one year or more and subsequently serves His Majesty elsewhere, the payment on his retirement or death shall be in respect of his annual salary at the time that he ceased to hold office in the Colony.

The Trade Union Ordinance, 1921 (No. 17). This Ordinance is practically a compilation of the English Statute Law with respect to trade unions; it does not, however, legalize peaceful picketing or the furtherance of political objects, nor does it exempt from liability for interfering with another person's business in furtherance of a trade dispute.

The Merchant Shipping (Wireless Telegraphy) Ordinance, 1921 (No. 19), is practically a reproduction for local purposes of the similar English Act of 1919.

The Harbour Board Ordinance, 1921 (No. 20), consolidates and amends the Harbour Board Ordinances of 1919. The Harbour Board has the power to levy tonnage dues, light dues, and shipping fees, within the maximum limits provided by the Ordinance.

The Railway Purchase Ordinance, 1921 (No. 23), confirmed the contract for the purchase by the Government of the railway and all the property of the Demerara Railway Company in the Colony, and authorized the contract being carried into effect. On completion of the purchase, all the property acquired is vested in the Colony.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

The expenditure on grants-in-aid to primary schools during the year was £68,657 14s. 2d. This sum was distributed among 224 schools, with a total roll of 36,865 and an average attendance of 21,661. The total number of teachers was 1,058, which included 620 uncertificated teachers and 110 certificated pupil teachers of all grades.

Payment of the grants-in-aid is based on the average attendance independently of examination results. There has been an increase in the number of candidates entering for the Primary School Leaving Certificate Examination, this number having risen from 316 in 1920 to 384 in 1921.

A sum of £2,592 9s. 6d. was expended on the training of teachers at the training colleges in Jamaica and Barbados. This sum provides for the maintenance of 24 student teachers at the above institutions. Of this number, twelve return annually for service in the elementary schools of the Colony, and their places are taken by other student teachers sent from the Colony. Six teachers were added to the number of certificated teachers, and three obtained higher certificates on the results of an examination held locally during the year. A further sum of £333 6s. 8d. was expended on the higher instruction of primary school teachers by means of lectures and demonstration lessons on school method, and lectures in Agricultural Science and Hygiene.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Facilities for secondary education in British Guiana are provided for boys by—

- (1) Queen's College, a Government secondary school.
- (2) St. Stanislaus' College, a Roman Catholic grammar school.
- (3) Berbice High School, under the control of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission; and
- (4) St. Joseph's Intermediate School, maintained by private enterprise.

Younger boys are also received at St. Rosa's School, maintained by the Ursuline Convent, whilst, in connection with several of the primary schools, classes for secondary instruction are also provided.

The needs of girls are supplied by—

- (1) The Bishop's High School for Girls.
- (2) St. Ursula's and St. Rosa's Schools in connection with the Ursuline Convent.
- (3) St. Joseph's High School in connection with the Convent of Mercy, Charlestown; and
- (4) St. Joseph's Intermediate School.

The reopening of the Trinity High School for Girls under the auspices of the Wesleyan Mission, and the opening of a secondary school for girls in New Amsterdam, Berbice, by the Canadian Presbyterian Mission, have also been promised.

The work in these schools is tested principally by the results obtained in the various public examinations of the Cambridge University Local Examinations Syndicate, whilst the work at Queen's College is further tested by a special examination throughout the school conducted by the same Syndicate.

Liberal assistance in obtaining secondary education is afforded by various scholarships. The Government annually awards seven scholarships for boys and two for girls under 12 years of age from primary and private schools. These are of the value of £23 6s. 8d. per annum and are tenable ordinarily for four years, but may be extended to six years. A Government Junior Scholarship of the same value as a Primary Scholarship is awarded annually to the boy or girl taking first place in the Cambridge Local Preliminary Examination. Queen's College Scholarships of the value of £6 5s. per annum, with free tuition, are offered annually to any boys attending Queen's College who obtain a distinction in the Cambridge Senior Local Examination in Classics, Mathematics, or Science. The Guiana Scholarship awarded annually on the results of a special examination conducted by the Cambridge University Syndicate, and of the total value of £900 payable in quarterly instalments extended over three, four or five years, affords a means whereby a student, whether boy or girl, may proceed to a university or higher technical college abroad. The qualifying standard is that of an open entrance scholarship at any of the colleges of Cambridge University.

In addition to the above, scholarships have been provided by private benefactions. The Mitchell foundation gives three scholarships in two years for boys, and one annually for girls, of the value of £18 5s. per annum and tenable for four years, on the results of the Cambridge Preliminary Local Examination. The Blair bequest provides scholarships of the total value of £50 spread over four years to students from Government grant-in-aid primary schools under 14 years of age. A trust fund created under the will of Pierre Louis de Saffon, a resident of the Colony who died over a century ago, undertakes the education and maintenance of a certain number of boys and girls, the number varying according to the revenue derived from the fund.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

Industrial education in the Colony is provided for by the Government Industrial School Ordinance No. 8 of 1907 and the Industrial Training Ordinance No. 6 of 1910. A Board of Industrial Training appointed under the second-named Ordinance arranges for, and directs, the technical education of apprentices in the different trades, such as engineering, building, printing, shipping, clothing, etc. Six bursaries of a minimum value of £74 6s. 2d. spread over five years are awarded every year on the results of an examination.

The instruction and training of vagrant boys and youthful male offenders are provided for by the Government Industrial School Ordinance No. 8 of 1907. The Government Industrial School at Onderneeming has accommodation for 180 boys. The number of inmates on the 31st December, 1921, was 158, while the daily average during the year was 160. The net cost per head was £28 9s. 5d.

The large majority of inmates are trained in agriculture, the institution being worked as a farm school, and possessing 100 acres of land in cultivation with coffee, cacao, rubber, limes, nutmegs, and fruit trees. A small number of the boys are trained also as carpenters, tailors and bakers.

A minor industry factory for the manufacture of lime products, rice and corn meal is also attached to the institution, and affords a means of training the boys in these industries.

Stocks of well-bred cattle, sheep, pigs and buffaloes are maintained, so the boys are trained in stock-keeping, dairy-farming and poultry.

Bees being kept, apiary work is also taught.

COMMUNICATIONS.

OCEAN COMMUNICATION.

Regular fortnightly and monthly communication is maintained with the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States of America

and the West Indies, by vessels of the Harrison Direct Line, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, the Trinidad Line, the Royal Netherlands West Indian Mail Company, and the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

The three rivers, Demerara, Essequibo and Berbice, are navigable for small steamers for 66, 58, and 130 miles respectively. Beyond these distances, owing to the nature of the country, they abound in cataracts and waterfalls. There are roads on the coast-lands and on the lower reaches of the rivers adjoining the plantations, but these do not extend inland and communication beyond their limits is by water, steamers plying up to Christianburg, 65½ miles from Georgetown, on the Demerara River; to Bartica, 56 miles from Georgetown, on the Essequibo River; and to Paradise, 100 miles from New Amsterdam, on the Berbice River.

RAILWAYS.

There are three lines of single-track railway in the Colony, of which two have recently been acquired by the Government from the Demerara Railway Company, and one is owned and operated by Sprotons Limited, a local company. One of the Government lines runs from Georgetown along the east coast of Demerara for a distance of 60½ miles to Rosignol on the left bank of the Berbice River, which is diagonally opposite to New Amsterdam—the second largest town in the Colony. The other runs along the west coast of Demerara for a distance of 18½ miles, starting at Vreed-en-Hoop on the left bank of the Demerara River and ending at Parika, a point on the coast immediately opposite the Island of Leguan, in the estuary of the Essequibo River.

Messrs. Sprotons' line of railway runs from Wismar on the left bank of the Demerara River to Rockstone on the right bank of the Essequibo River, a distance of about 18¾ miles, and forms an important link in the means available for reaching the important Potaro gold-diggings. In connection with this railway a tri-weekly service of steamers and steam launches, respectively, is run on the Demerara and Essequibo Rivers.

STEAMERS.

Steamers owned by a local company run under contract from Georgetown to Mallali on the Demerara River, from Georgetown to Mount Everard on the Barima River, 46 miles beyond Morawhanna, and from New Amsterdam up the Berbice River. The Company's steamers also run (not under contract) from Georgetown to New Amsterdam. Colonial steamers owned and worked by Government run from Georgetown to Adventure on the Essequibo coast, from Georgetown to Bartica at the junction of the Essequibo, Mazaruni and Cuyuni Rivers, and from Georgetown to the Pomeroon District.

Launches of light draught can, during a portion of the year, proceed up the Barima River as far as Arakaka, the centre of the mining industry in the North-west District.

ROADS.

Roads have been opened, and are maintained by the Government between Arakaka on the Barima River and Towakaima on the Barama River, a distance of 29 miles, with a branch line to Five Stars, a distance of 17 miles in the North-west District; between Tumatumari and St. Mary Konawaruk, $14\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and Potaro Landing and North Fork Konawaruk, $20\frac{1}{2}$ miles, with a connecting trail from the 6-mile post on the former road to the 10-mile post on the latter (known as the Tiger Creek line), a distance of $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles, in the Potaro District; between Bartica on the Essequibo River and Kaburi River on the Mazaruni River, a distance of 68 miles; and between Lower Camaria and Upper Camaria on the Cuyuni River, a distance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, in the Essequibo District.

A road has been traced and is in construction from Morawhanna to Mabaruma Hills and the Aruka River in the North-west District, a distance of 21 miles; and extensions of the Bartica-Kaburi road have been traced from Kaburi to Potaro Landing on the Potaro River, a distance of 22 miles, and to Tiboku Falls, a distance of about 62 miles on the Mazaruni River, but construction work has not yet commenced.

CATTLE TRAIL FROM THE RUPUNUNI DISTRICT.

A cattle trail has been constructed and is being maintained by the Government between Takama on the Berbice River and Annai on the Rupununi River, a distance of 180 miles, with a branch line to Arakwa, a place approximately opposite Wismar on the Demerara River. During 1921 a trace was made of a further branch line starting at a point on the trail $18\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Arakwa and connecting at Hyde Park with the public road running along the east bank of the Demerara River. 2,472 cattle have already been brought over the trail to date, and it is understood that some 1,400 animals will travel to Georgetown in the latter part of the year after the rains.

During 1921, several swamps along the trail were drained and made into good roadway, and several bridges were erected over some of the larger streams that the trail crosses.

POSTAL.

The Postal Service embraces the whole of the coast-lands and extends up the principal rivers. The General Post Office is situated in Georgetown, and there are 49 branch post offices, 15 postal agencies, and 10 travelling post offices. The Post Office also controls the inland telegraph and telephone systems.

The following are the rates charged:—

Postal Service.

Local Letters—

First oz.	1d.
Over 1 oz., not exceeding 2 oz.	1½d.
Over 2 oz., not exceeding 4 oz.	2d.
Over 4 oz. and up to 2 lb., for each additional 2 oz. ...	½d.

Newspapers—

Each	1d.
Or at book packet rate when made up in packets of two or more.	

Book Packets—

On each packet not exceeding 4 oz.	1d.
On each additional 4 oz.	2d.

Circulars and Prices Current—

For each	1d.
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Post Cards—

Each	1d.
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Foreign Letters—

To the British Empire and to His Majesty's Forces serving abroad, and to United States of America—	
For first oz.	2d.
Each additional oz.	1½d.

All foreign countries save the United States of America—

For first oz.	3d.
Each additional oz.	1½d.

For other classes of correspondence—

Post Cards—

Single	1½d.
Reply	3d.

Printed Papers—

For every 2 oz.	½d.
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Commercial Papers—

For every 2 oz. (minimum 3d.)	½d.
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Samples and Patterns—

For every 2 oz. (minimum 1d.)	½d.
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Telegraph Service.

For 12 words or less	9d.
Every additional 6 words or part	3d.

Telephone Service.

Rental business premises—per annum	£10 0s. 0d.
Rental private residence—per annum	£4 3s. 4d.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

The following publications of the British Guiana Government are on sale at the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1, at the prices indicated.

Commercial Handbook of the Colony	1s. 6d. each.
Journal of Board of Agriculture	1d. each.
Rubber and Balata in British Guiana	6d. each.
Timbers of British Guiana	5s. each.
Memorandum of terms on which Crown land can be bought	2d. each.
Annual Reports of—	
Comptroller of Customs	} ½d. per page with maximum charge of 1s. each.
Local Government Board	
Commissioner of Lands and Mines	
Director of Science and Agriculture	
Registrar-General	
Official Receiver and Public Trustee	
Copies of British Guiana Ordinances likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony.	2d. per page with maximum charge of 2s. for each Ordinance.
Regulations passed under these Ordinances ...	2d. per page with maximum charge of 2s. for each Ordinance.
Blue Book	£1.
Annual General Report	1s.
Combined Court papers and Court of Policy papers likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony.	½d. per page with maximum charge of 1s.
Copies of Railway tariffs and time tables	Free of charge.

G. BALL GREENE,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

9th June, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1089	East Africa Protectorate								1919-1920
1090	Sierra Leone								1920
1091	Zanzibar								"
1092	Cayman Islands								1918-1919
1093	Cyprus								1920
1094	St. Vincent								"
1095	Bahamas								1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland								1920
1097	Weihaiwei								"
1098	Nigeria								"
1099	New Hebrides								"
1100	Somaliland								"
1101	Straits Settlements								"
1102	Swaziland								1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago								1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands								"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast								"
1106	Seychelles								"
1107	Ashanti								"
1108	Hongkong								"
1109	British Guiana								"
1110	British Honduras								"
1111	Malta								1920-1921
1112	Uganda								1920
1113	Leeward Islands								1920-1921
1114	Nigeria								1921
1115	Mauritius								1920
1116	Jamaica								1921
1117	Cyprus								"
1118	Weihaiwei								"
1119	Gold Coast								1920
1120	Gambia								"
1121	Kenya								1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate								1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.			Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria			Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies			Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria			Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria			Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon			Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute			Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria			Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent			Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate			Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General			Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island			Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

RE

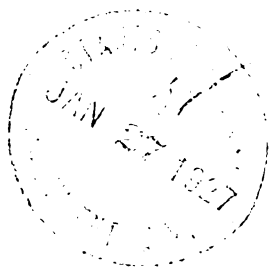
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1124.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

For Report for 1920 see No. 1078.



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1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh.

1922.

Price 3d. net.

No. 1124.

GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE
YEAR 1921.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year 1921 amounted to £97,931, and the expenditure to £136,969, showing a deficit of £39,038.

2. This is mainly the result of the fall of the market prices for cocoa, the Colony's staple product.

3. The following comparative statement indicates the extent of this fall:—

Value of Cocoa exported from the Colony.	1917	...	£412,261
	1918	...	519,365
	1919	...	539,740
	1920	...	466,658
	1921	...	185,193

4. The revenue during 1921 amounted to £97,931, and the expenditure to £136,969, resulting in a deficit of £39,038.

The corresponding figures for previous years are as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
1916-17	114,525	108,078	6,447	—
1917-18	106,138	109,390	—	3,252
1918-19	110,387	108,252	2,135	—
1919 (nine months) ...	87,295	107,011	—	19,716
1920	134,128	148,174	—	14,056

5. The assets of the Colony at 31st December, 1921, stood at £97,512, and the liabilities at £110,800, showing a net deficit of £13,288.

6. The public debt at the same date was £223,670, and the sinking fund £62,427 6s. 2d.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

7. The value of the imports during the year was small as compared with those of previous years. This is shown by the following comparative statement:—

Country.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	95,681	79,274	94,467	204,639	70,435
Trinidad	21,961	28,658	30,691	53,379	22,310
U.S. of America	157,758	151,980	202,465	212,929	63,839
Canada	26,324	51,827	60,882	90,944	54,430

8. The value of the exports amounted to £279,217, of which £251,486 represents the produce of the Colony, and £27,731 the value of imported goods exported.

The principal countries which received the exports of the Colony were as under:—

United Kingdom	...	...	...	£165,950
Trinidad	...	...	...	33,684
Canada	...	...	...	16,404
United States of America	...	...	...	51,069

The values of the exports for the last five years are shown in the following statement:—

Country.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	289,292	386,348	238,642	436,531	165,950
Canada ...	15,858	15,056	10,902	15,527	16,404
Trinidad ...	6,207	6,548	78,569	32,153	33,725
U.S. of America ...	162,643	290,039	107,867	108,953	51,069

9. A severe storm on the 8th September caused much damage to cocoa and nutmeg plantations. Many trees were destroyed, and the crop on others seriously affected.

SHIPPING.

10. One hundred and twenty-seven steam vessels, totalling 355,044 tons, entered at the port of Saint George during the year. Of these, 125 were of British build, one Cuban, and one American. One hundred and one arrived from ports in the British West Indies, 25 from the United States of America, and one from the French West Indies.

The same number cleared during the year. One hundred and two cleared for ports of the British West Indies, 24 for the United States of America, and one to the French West Indies.

Five hundred and fifty-one sailing vessels with total tonnage of 13,898 tons entered during the year.

LEGISLATION.

11. Among the more important of the Ordinances passed during the year are the Census Ordinance, which makes provision for the taking from time to time of a census of the Colony, and the Income Tax Ordinance, under which a tax on incomes was for the first time imposed and collected.

VITAL STATISTICS.

12. The population at the 31st December, 1921, is estimated to have been 66,957. According to the Census of the 24th April, 1921, the population at that date was 66,302, and the above estimate is arrived at after taking into account the natural increase since that date, and the difference between emigration and immigration.

13. By the Census it was shown that the population was 448 less than that in April, 1911. This result is attributed to the constant stream of emigration to the Canal Zone, Cuba, the United States of America and other places.

14. The birth-rate per thousand was 34·86 and the death-rate 19·5.

15. Judging from the returns as to deaths caused by syphilis, it would appear that the operation of the Venereal Diseases Ordinance of 1917 is producing beneficial results. In 1921 the number of deaths caused by that disease was 18 as compared with 25 in 1920, and 38 in 1919.

MEDICAL.

16. A new private ward, constructed as a separate building near the Colony Hospital, was formally opened by the Governor in April. This building provides accommodation for six patients, each in a separate room affording absolute privacy. In addition, a nurses' day recreation room is provided in the basement of the building.

17. Owing to the reduction in the number of cases treated in the Yaws Hospital, the direct outcome of the success attending the prosecution of the campaign of intensive treatment of yaws in the districts, that institution was closed on the last day of the year.

18. The general health of the Colony was on the whole satisfactory, for, in spite of an epidemic of dysentery in St. John's, which accounted for 61 deaths out of a total of 182 for that parish, the total number of deaths recorded was 1,309, and the death-rate per 1,000, 19·5 as compared with 1,318 and 17·5 respectively for the previous year.

19. The recorded number of deaths from malarial fevers was 69 as compared with 77 in 1920, and 88 in 1919. The free distribution of quinine to persons of the labouring classes continues. Certain anti-malarial measures were carried out with good results.

20. The campaign instituted in 1918 for the compulsory treatment of venereal diseases has been steadily prosecuted with good results. The Travelling Commission of the National Council for combating venereal diseases visited the Colony in the year under review.

POST OFFICE.

21. Increased rates of postage on correspondence posted in Grenada for places outside the Colony, except to the United Kingdom and British Possessions generally, and in the case of letters to the United States of America, were adopted as from the 1st December, 1921, in conformity with the requirements of the Postal Union Convention of Madrid.

METEOROLOGICAL.

22. The rainfall was 78·71 inches, 10·05 more than in 1920, and 4·33 more than the average for the past three years. The maximum temperature in the sun was 152 on the 11th June, and 93·0 in the shade on the 7th September. The minimum in the shade was 68 on the 11th March.

N. JULIAN PATERSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
10th June, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

No.	Colony, etc.	ANNUAL.										Year.
1090	Sierra Leone ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1091	Zanzibar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1092	Cayman Islands ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1094	St. Vincent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1095	Bahamas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1096	Nyasaland ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1097	Weihaiwei ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1098	Nigeria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1099	New Hebrides ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1100	Somaliland ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1101	Straits Settlements ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1102	Swaziland ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1103	Trinidad and Tobago ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1106	Seychelles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1107	Ashanti ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1108	Hongkong ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1109	British Guiana ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1110	British Honduras ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1111	Malta ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1112	Uganda ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1113	Leeward Islands ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1114	Nigeria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1115	Mauritius ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1116	Jamaica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1117	Cyprus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1118	Weihaiwei ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1119	Gold Coast ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1120	Gambia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1121	Gambia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1123	British Guiana ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies ...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon ...	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute ...	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent ...	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate ...	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General ...	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island ...	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1125.

ZANZIBAR.

REPORT FOR 1921.

For Report for 1920 see No. 1091.



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No. 1125.

ZANZIBAR.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of Zanzibar is situated in 6° S. latitude and is separated from the mainland by a channel 22½ miles across at its narrowest part. It is the largest coralline island on the African coast, being 54 miles long by about 15 broad, and having an area of 640 square miles.

To the north-east, at a distance of some 30 miles, lies the Island of Pemba in 5° S. latitude. It is smaller than Zanzibar, being 40 miles long by about 10 broad, and having an area of 380 square miles.

In the year 1890 the supremacy of British interests in the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba was recognized by France and Germany, and they were declared a British Protectorate in accordance with conventions by which Great Britain waived all claims to Madagascar in favour of France, and ceded Heligoland to Germany.

In 1891 a regular government was constituted with a British representative as First Minister. In 1906, the Imperial Government assumed more direct control over the Protectorate and re-organized the Government. In 1911 Seyyid Ali abdicated the throne and was succeeded by the present ruler, Seyyid Khalifa bin Harub, K.C.M.G., K.B.E. On 1st July, 1913, the control of the Protectorate was transferred from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office, legal effect being given to the change of administration on 1st January of the following year.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS, 1921.

The High Commissioner proceeded to England on duty in July and was absent from East Africa for a period of three months.

The British Resident, Major F. B. Pearce, C.M.G., assumed the duties of Acting High Commissioner from 9th July until he proceeded on leave on the 8th August.

Mr. J. H. Sinclair, C.M.G., C.B.E., became Acting High Commissioner and Acting British Resident on the 8th August. He retained the former office until the return of Major-General Sir Edward Northey, K.C.M.G., C.B., on the 1st October, and continued to act as British Resident until the end of the year.

NOTE.—Maps will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 843 [Cd. 7622-34].

Mr. Sinclair was appointed to the post of British Resident, which became vacant by the retirement of Major Pearce on 10th January, 1922.

Harbour Works.

Owing to a period of financial stringency which occurred at the end of 1920, work on the scheme of harbour improvement was suspended in December and all contracts and orders for material and equipment were cancelled. In April, 1921, it was finally decided to proceed with the scheme as originally evolved, and work was resumed. Although much valuable time had been lost and immediate progress was impeded in consequence of the cancellation of contracts and orders for material, the general fall in price which had occurred in the intervening period enabled orders to be renewed on favourable terms. A great deal was achieved during the remaining months of the year in the organisation of transport and the preparation of sites.

The following is a resumé of the work carried out in 1921:—

- (i) Work in connexion with the lay-out, erection of buildings, equipment and water supply of the construction yard at Saateni was completed.
- (ii) Stone crushers and concrete mixers were erected at the construction yard, and a floor laid for the ferro-concrete piles.
- (iii) Forty-eight 61-ft. reinforced ferro-concrete piles were made ready for removal as soon as required.
- (iv) A seven-mile railway line linking up the Chukwani stone quarry with the existing line from Zanzibar to Bububu via Saateni was laid, and the necessary railway material comprising locomotives and wagons was brought into use.
- (v) The old railway line was straightened in various places to make possible the transport of the ferro-concrete piles from Saateni to the site of the harbour works, and was re-sleepered with steel sleepers throughout.
- (vi) Contracts for the quarrying of stone were entered into and although some difficulty was at first experienced in finding stone in sufficient quantities and of the required quality, this difficulty has in a measure been overcome, and a good face of rock of the requisite hardness is now being worked.
- (vii) The construction of the rubble-retaining mound was started, and 830 cubic yards of stone were quarried at Chukwani and transported to the site of the harbour works.
- (viii) Arrangements were concluded for the purchase of the suction-pump dredger "Pengum" from the Government of the Union of South Africa. Delivery of this vessel is expected early in 1922.

Water Supply.

A scheme for bringing water from springs at Bububu to supplement the existing supply from Chem Chem, estimated to cost £35,000, was prepared, and, after submission to a consulting Engineer in London, was approved by the Secretary of State. A report on the Geology of the watershed and the springs which it is proposed to tap was made by the Government Geologist of Uganda, whose services were lent by that Protectorate. This report was favourable to the scheme. It is proposed to undertake the construction of the necessary works next year.

Public Works.

Buildings and Works.—A sum of £6,123 was spent on the maintenance of existing buildings. The only new building of importance undertaken was a new Court House at Chake Chake in Pemba to provide accommodation for the magistrate's Court and certain other public officers. A sum of £2,930 was spent during 1921, and it is anticipated that the building will be completed in the early part of next year.

No other works of importance were undertaken, but various minor new works to the value of £13,478 were carried out, and a sum of £14,133 was spent on maintenance of minor works and services, exclusive of Buildings and Roads.

New Publications.

A handbook of the principal statistics of the Zanzibar Protectorate from the year of the assumption of the Protectorate by Great Britain in 1893 to 1920 has been compiled and published by Mr. R. H. Crofton. (The Eastern Press Limited, 3 Chancery Lane, W.C.). The figures were derived from official sources and include Meteorology, Population, Production, Trade and Shipping, Price Movement and Finance.

Census.

Early in the year a Decree was promulgated to enable the taking, on 24th April, of a census of the non-native inhabitants of the Protectorate.

The following Table shows the number and nationality of the persons enumerated in 1921 compared with the figures of the previous census taken in 1910.

Description.	1910.	1921.	Percentage of Increase.	Percentage of Decrease.
Europeans, British	121	222	83·47	—
Other Europeans	109 ¹	48	—	65·96
British Indians, Hindus and Mohammedans	8,058	12,588	56·22	—
Parsees	183	216	18·03	—
Other British Indians	— ²	37	—	—
Cingalese	72	57	—	20·83
Seychellians, Mauritian, Chinese, Japanese, French Colonials and others	12	88	633·33	—
Portuguese Indians	440	869 ³	97·50	—
	8,995	14,125	57·17	—

¹ Includes 35 German subjects.

² No separate classification in 1910.

³ Includes 747 Christians.

The only noteworthy feature of the census returns was the increase which was shown to have taken place during the last ten years in the number of British Indian inhabitants. That increase is primarily attributable to the absence of any form of restriction on Indian immigration into the Protectorate, and to the opportunities Zanzibar offers to the small Indian trader.

Peace Memorial.

Satisfactory progress has been made in the erection of the Peace Memorial to which reference was made in last year's Annual Report, and this edifice will be open to the public during the coming year. The Memorial will form a valuable addition to the public buildings in Zanzibar Town, and will have as one of its principal features a scientific and general museum primarily intended for educational purposes. In addition, the building provides a spacious lecture hall wherein it is proposed that periodical lectures of a general educational character should be given for the benefit of Arabs, natives and Indians.

III. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

(i) Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the Revenue and Expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years :—

						Revenue.	Expenditure.
						£	£
1917	...	...	...	...	...	297,746	259,961
1918	...	...	...	...	...	387,371	271,874
1919	...	...	...	...	...	407,505	323,418
1920	...	...	...	...	...	330,212	403,808
1921	...	...	...	...	...	455,773	385,252

(ii) Taxation.

The principal new taxation imposed during the year was the increase in Customs Duties from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, and an increase of Rs.15 per gallon import duty on distilled liquors.

(iii) Currency.

The silver rupee of British India, of the standard weight and fineness enacted in the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, is the standard coin of the Protectorate.

All other silver coins of British India of the standard weight and fineness enacted in the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, are legal tender for the payment of an amount not exceeding Rs.5.

Seyyidieh copper pice are legal tender at the rate of 64 pice to one rupee for the payment of an amount not exceeding one rupee.

There is a Government note issue of the denominations, Rs.5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 500. The value of notes in circulation on 31st December amounted to Rs.39,74,490. The security held against the issue consists of cash to the approximate sum of 56 per cent. and of Colonial and Indian Government Securities to the

approximate amount of 44 per cent. of the value of notes in circulation.

(iv) *Assets and Liabilities.*

	£
Balance of Assets on 31st December, 1920	502,398
Surplus, 1920	70,521
Balance of Assets on 31st December, 1921	572,919
Loan to Kenya Colony and Protectorate	200,000

(v) *Public Debt.*

The Public Debt amounts to £100,000 in 3 per cent. debentures which were issued to the British Public in 1899 under authority of the Loan Decree, 1899. $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the nominal value of the issue is appropriated annually from general revenue to a sinking fund for the extinction of the debt. The amount at the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December, was £68,989, which is invested in War Loan and Colonial Government Securities.

IV. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

(i) *Imports and Exports.*

The total inward and outward trade of the Protectorate for the year 1921 amounted to 117,647 tons valued at Rs.6,46,96,995, being an increase on the previous year of 19.3 per cent. in weight and 12.5 per cent. in value.

The total imports (including goods declared for direct transshipment, bullion and specie and goods imported by Government) amounted to 72,611 tons valued at Rs.3,22,32,946 being an increase over 1920 of 12,835 tons or 21.5 per cent. in weight and Rs.48,51,999 or 17.7 per cent. in value. The principal items showing increases are cotton piece-goods, rice and grain, motor-spirit and petroleum, raw cotton and bullion and specie.

The total exports (including re-exports, direct transshipments and bullion and specie) amounted to 45,036 tons valued at Rs. 3,24,64,049 being an increase on 1920 of 6,193 tons or 15.9 per cent. in weight and Rs.23,52,254 or 7.8 per cent. in value. This increase is due to the much larger quantity of cloves harvested and exported during the year and to an increase in the quantity of motor-spirit and petroleum sent to mainland territories. The value of cotton piece-goods showed a certain decrease, but this is due in a great measure to a fall in price and does not indicate that the trade is decreasing. A decrease in the export of bullion and specie is due to the fact that the figures for 1920 were exceptional.

The distribution of trade by countries shows little change. The five principal countries trading with the Protectorate account for 75 per cent. of the total trade, in the following proportions:— India and Burma, 26 per cent.; Tanganyika Territory, 19 per cent.; United Kingdom, 16 per cent.; Kenya Colony and Protectorate, 8 per cent.; and France 6 per cent., and are in the same order as in 1920.

The warehousing of goods for subsequent re-export is an important factor in the trade of the Protectorate, and it is satisfactory to note that in 1921 the heavy stocks accumulated during recent years have been considerably reduced and trade conditions are now much more healthy.

(ii) *Agricultural Industries.*

Cloves.—In order to encourage planting of clove trees Government has established nurseries at Machui and at Selem in the Mkokotoni district, containing respectively 18,000 and 20,000 plants. These seedlings will all be ready for planting out in the spring of 1922, and are to be distributed free to plantation owners making application for them.

For many years the Government has maintained nurseries of coconut palms, and has distributed them among plantation owners at prices which just cover the outlay.

For some years plantation owners in Pemba island have received assistance from Government by means of loans to enable them to gather their clove-crops. A sum of Rs.40,000 is set aside for this purpose and loans have been made free of interest for periods of three months. This practice has proved entirely successful, and there has been so little difficulty in securing a refund of these loans that it is now contemplated extending the system to Zanzibar and increasing considerably the amount of money to be distributed. This has been necessary owing to the higher cost of clove-picking which has almost doubled within the last ten years.

The scheme of road construction in Pemba will, when carried out, prove of the greatest assistance to the clove-industry there. It is a significant fact worthy of attention that, although there has been practically no planting of cloves for the last 20 years, during which period a large number of trees have died, particularly in Pemba, the production of cloves within the Protectorate has not shown any diminution. This can only be attributed to better picking and is no doubt brought about by the increased number of local natives and mainlanders who have become owners of small plantations within recent years. The condition of the plantations of the large Arab-owners has not changed.

Owing to increased immigration from the mainland the local rates of labour, except for clove-picking, have fallen considerably; and there is sufficient labour for purposes of cultivation.

The figures for the season's clove-crop 1920-21 taken from the 1st July to the 30th June were as follows:—

Zanzibar	...	...	...	231,381	Frasilas.
Pemba	...	...	...	316,194	„
Total	...	...	...	547,575	

The average annual production in the four preceding seasons has been 474,500 *frasilas*.

The ruling price of cloves during the year 1921 was on an average better than the previous year; the maximum price being Rs.32.56 and the minimum price Rs.13.50 per *frasila*; and for Pemba cloves the maximum price during the year was Rs.31.56 per *frasila* and the minimum Rs.10.59. (One *frasila* equals 35 lb.).

Copra.—The exports of *copra* during the year 1921 were 15,551,200 lb. valued at about Rs.29,72,206. This total includes all the *copra* exported from Pemba, also a certain quantity from Mafia and Tanganyika Territory. The maximum price of *copra* during the year 1921 was Rs.6.62 and the minimum price Rs.3 per *frasila* of 35 lb.

The *copra* trade during the year was on the whole good, but was hampered for a short time owing to fall in the market price. There is no marked improvement in the quality of *copra* produced locally, and it is difficult to see how a uniform improvement can be obtained without artificial drying apparatus. This is especially the case when crops have been gathered during the damp seasons. At present there does not seem to be sufficient financial inducement to encourage people to make a better quality *copra*.

Chillies.—The export of *chillies* from Zanzibar in 1921 was 48,432 lb. valued at Rs.32,316.

V. LEGISLATION.

The legislation enacted during the year was larger in volume and undoubtedly of a more important character than usual.

Apart from Decrees merely amending Decrees already in force, Decrees were enacted dealing with such important subjects as the provision of pensions for the widows and children of European Officers in the service of the Protectorate, the manufacture and sale of aerated waters, compulsory education of Zanzibar natives, the storage and landing of dangerous substances, gases and liquids, and the raising and maintenance of a local Reserve Force attached to the King's African Rifles.

Following upon similar legislation passed by the Imperial Parliament, provision was made for the enforcement in the Protectorate of maintenance orders made in England and Ireland, and of judgments passed in England, Scotland and Ireland.

Power was also conferred by Decree upon the British Resident to direct the Attorney-General to present an appeal to the High Court from an order of acquittal passed by any Court other than the High Court, thus following the precedents in such matters set by India and the neighbouring Dependencies.

An attempt was made to lessen the risk of danger to the town of Zanzibar from fire by restricting the storage of wood to certain areas.

A further Decree enacted with a view to lessening disputes among merchants prescribed certain formalities in connection with the sale of goods, the Decree being based upon corresponding provisions in the Sale of Goods Act, 1893.

An important Decree was also passed regulating the occupation and disposal of public land, prohibiting the disposal of land occupied by certain natives to any person other than a native as defined by the Decree, and limiting the power of alienation even in favour of another native to a transfer of native rights.

VI. EDUCATION.

The report of the Education Commission which sat in 1920 was submitted to the Secretary of State and the general outlines of its policy approved.

Plans were made and a site fixed for the building of a new Primary School, in which most of the Primary Education of Zanzibar town will eventually be carried on.

The following is a summary of the present educational activities in the island:—

Government Schools.

In Zanzibar there is a central school in which 350 Arab, Indian and African pupils receive elementary and primary education.

In connection with this school, apprenticeship courses of three years in carpentry and tailoring are carried on.

Outside Zanzibar town there are four district elementary schools, two in Zanzibar Island and two in Pemba Island.

In all these schools Arabic and the Koran are taught. There are no fees.

Government-aided.—The Euan Smith Madressa, founded in 1890 as an undenominational Indian school, now receives a large grant from the Government. It is well housed in a Government-owned building and education similar to that given in the Central School is provided. The average attendance is over 200. Fees are paid.

Indian Community Schools.—Various Indian communities run schools giving elementary, primary and religious instruction. The most important among these is the Aga Khan School.

The funds for these schools are collected by the communities.

Mission Schools.—Various Missions run small schools in Zanzibar and outside; technical instruction is generally given in these.

The Missions and certain Indian communities provide a certain amount of education for girls.

A training college for Mainland Mission Teachers is quartered close to Zanzibar at Kiungani.

Private Schools.—Small private schools run by Arabs and Indians also exist.

A Government examination called the **Primary Certificate Examination** is held each year before the beginning of the month of **Ramadan**.

Four pupils passed in 1921.

Recreation.—The large area of reclaimed ground at Mnazi Moja provides a unique recreation field for the school-boys and youth of Zanzibar generally. Full advantage is taken of this ground by all races and communities for football, cricket, hockey, etc.

Physical Drill.—Heat and lack of accommodation prevent much physical drill from being carried out, but more attention is being paid to this.

Boy Scout Movement.—Steps are being taken to extend this movement which is at present confined to a troop about 70 strong founded by the Universities Mission to Central Africa School.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS.

(i) *Shipping.*

210 ocean-going vessels with a net tonnage of 627,409 entered the port of Zanzibar during the year 1921 as compared with 172 vessels with a net tonnage of 549,859 in the previous year.

The total number of coasting vessels entered was 199 with a net tonnage of 55,226, the figures for the preceding year being 163 and 46,899.

During the year 5,126 dhows with a tonnage of 95,056 entered the port, while 5,114 with a tonnage of 93,891 cleared during the same period. The respective figures for the previous year were: 4,876, tonnage 91,243, and 4,865, tonnage 90,990.

From the above statistics it will be seen that a total of 5,535 vessels including dhows, with an aggregate tonnage of 777,691, entered the port of Zanzibar during the year 1921, representing an increase of 335 vessels, and 89,690 tons. The increase in steamships is due to the more regular sailings which have been maintained by the various shipping companies trading on the East African coast, and the increase in dhow traffic is probably attributable to the general revival of trade and partly also to the retention by Zanzibar of the Indian rupee currency.

The Zanzibar Government steamers have continued to maintain regular weekly communication with Pemba ports and have in addition maintained a weekly service to Daressalaam and made occasional visits to Mombasa or Kilindini.

A new coasting steamship service was inaugurated during the year by the East India Steam Navigation Company with three small steamers. This service has been maintained regularly between the East coast ports from Kismayu in the North and Lindi in the South with Zanzibar as one of the ports of call on the round voyage.

The Holland East African Line has inaugurated and now maintains a service of steamers to East coast ports and Zanzibar, with occasional sailings from Europe via the Cape as well as via Suez.

Except for the two additions referred to above, there has been no alteration in the steamship services mentioned in the previous year's report.

(ii) *Roads.*

A sum of £11,150 was spent on maintaining existing roads and bridges, mostly in Zanzibar. There are no roads suitable for wheeled traffic at present in Pemba outside the towns of Chake Chake and Weti, but a general scheme has been decided upon and approved by the Secretary of State for the construction of about 75 miles of new roads at an estimated cost of £80,000. A preliminary survey was begun in January, and proceeded throughout the year. The preliminary location of the main road running from North to South, about 58 miles in length, connecting Mtangatwani, Weti, Chake Chake and Mkoani, was completed, and the detailed survey and setting out of the section from Weti to Chake Chake was begun, the acquisition of land along the route being dealt with at the same time.

Roughly speaking, the island of Pemba is divided longitudinally North and South by an irregular and ill-defined watershed. The Eastern half of the island slopes gradually and comparatively smoothly to the East Coast, with coral outcrops appearing as the sea is approached. The Western half appears to have originally formed a plateau which has become deeply eroded and dissected by numerous deep and winding valleys. The Southern half of the island is rougher and more difficult than the Northern half. It is on the Western side of the island that the plantations occur which the road is principally required to serve. In locating the main road from North to South the object aimed at has been to keep to the West, so as to tap the cultivated areas without getting into the difficult country characteristic of that side of the island. As far as possible the watershed has been followed, but, although this has to some extent been feasible in the Northern half of the island, the watershed is altogether too irregular to be of any use. The principal towns, namely Weti, Chake Chake and Mkoani, are situated on the West coast, and are the principal ports of call of the weekly service of Government steamers. The scheme includes the construction of short branch roads to Weti and Chake Chake, while Mkoani is the southern terminus of the main road.

(iii) *Postal.*

382 vessels arrived and 374 sailed with foreign mails during the year, the figures for the previous year being 336 and 284 respectively.

The total number of articles dealt with by the Post Office during the year was 749,552 as compared with 637,637 in 1920.

Foreign articles accounted for 620,727 compared with 534,401, inland articles 10,417 as compared with 93,405, and transit articles 27,408 compared with 9,923 in 1920. The increase in foreign articles was due to the resumption of the mail service with Germany. Undelivered articles amounted to 5,470 against 3,195 in the preceding year; 1,876 of these articles were returned to Zanzibar and 3,594 to places abroad.

Customs duty amounting to £3,283 was collected on parcels.

The value of Money Orders issued at the Protectorate Post Office amounted to £75,908 compared with £86,504 during the previous year. The total of Money Orders paid was £56,454 as against £55,157 in 1920.

British Postal Orders to the value of £591 were sold, and £496 were cashed in the Protectorate during the year.

The revenue of the Post Office, including interest on Savings Bank investments, amounted to £8,202 for the year 1921, representing an increase of £3,000 over the previous year. This increase was principally due to the sales of stamps to philatelists in England and America, a slight alteration having been made in water-mark.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1126.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1105.)



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1921.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. In the absence of any direct taxation the Revenue of the Protectorate remains negligible, the sole Revenue producing sources being rents, Gun licences, Court Fees and Fines, and in view of the paucity of Civil Cases, and the small number of Criminal Cases this is only what is to be expected.

2. In spite of the joy with which the alloy coinage was accepted last year, the natives have a very good idea of the intrinsic value of silver and other metals, and at the present time the purchasing power of the alloy coinage is far less than that of the British silver, 1,000 cowries used to be given for one shilling silver, now this has some-what dropped and varies according to local conditions and demand, but, for a shilling alloy it is doubtful if more than 500 cowries could be bought. It is, moreover, useless for melting into ornaments.

3. The Protectorate Revenue still suffers from the fact that all Customs duty collected on articles supplied from overseas, is credited to the Colony, and here again the meagre revenue is further lessened, the same applies to Railway freights.

4. Man power continues to be one of the important assets of the country and during the year, 3,800 organised labourers have been supplied to the Mines, Railways, Sisal Plantations and the Surveys, besides unknown numbers of men who go down to the Colony and Ashanti to seek work, more especially cocoa-carrying during the season, and clearing farms for the Ashantis. This last class of labour is very popular, which is natural, as most of the labour is drawn from the farming class. This work is well paid. Mine labour is not popular, the main reason being that nearly all the people are unwilling to work under-ground, and prefer above-ground work at less pay. Cocoa work is also much sought after owing to the large wages which can be earned in a comparatively short time, and a man can earn enough in a fortnight to keep him in affluence for the remainder of the month.

5. The Police and Gold Coast Regiment also draw their recruits from the Northern Territories.

6. There are no tables of Revenue and Expenditure shown, the financial year being now changed as from December 31st to March 31st, and as the Annual Report covers only the period from January 1st to December 31st, the tables would be incomplete and are therefore omitted.

7. The paper money has disappeared, and its departure has left no regrets among the native population, who for the most part had nowhere to keep it, did not understand it, and could not bury it with any certainty of eventually retrieving it, owing to white ants and other destructive pests.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

8. The trade, in spite of the general depression all over the world, has not been so bad as might have been expected. In the case of cattle the drop as compared with 1920 is only 5,645 head, and this in spite of the fact that rinderpest has been raging in French and British spheres, and was also bad last year. For months cattle were prevented from travelling and even at the time of writing, though the French are now reported to have stamped out the disease, it has been considered necessary by the Veterinary Department to institute Quarantine Stations on the Frontiers through which French cattle must pass, and where they are detained for some days under observation. From recent reports it is thought that this trade will now increase largely, when all restrictions are removed, and at the present time there are Europeans engaged in it in increasing numbers.

As regards sheep and goats the totals passing south show an increase of 16,072 as compared with 1920—which is encouraging.

Shea butter going south is fairly normal showing a decrease in donkey loads of this commodity, but a corresponding increase in carrier loads.

The same may be said to apply to the kola which shows a decrease in donkey loads of 19,342, with an increase in head loads of 23,575. The donkey load averages 140 lbs as against the head load of 96 lbs.

Cloth shows a decrease of 8,990 loads and this is probably accounted for by the inflated price of English cloth and the trade depression in the United Kingdom.

Dried fish, a purely Native produce, shows an increase of 2,498 loads in the year under review.

9. The Acting Commissioner of the Northern Province quotes figures of cattle passing through Navarro in past years and is somewhat pessimistic regarding the restrictions on moving cattle, he says:—

“8. This, of course, is due to the restrictions placed on the import of animals owing to the cattle plague, and the fact that only one port of entry at Bawku was allowed until November 21st, when another was opened at Hamele. It is feared that the majority of this trade may be permanently lost as traders turned back from Paga in the Navarro District would have to retrace their steps to

Kupela before going down to Bawku, as the French Nankanni have no proper roads and an evil reputation for looting traders. It is unlikely that traders which have suffered this hardship would be likely to make a second attempt, but prefer to use the market at Bamako, where the meat is chilled for French export trade."

"9. The prices in the south for meat appear to be very high, as traders have passed either north or south who are of other nationality than French or African; a Greek and a Syrian reported at Bawku and Syrians from Coomassie did so at Navarro going north to buy cattle."

"10. It is interesting to note that more sheep of the woolled breed from Macina have been brought down than before, but they do not appear to stand the journey as well as the other breeds."

10. With reference to the statement of the Acting Provincial Commissioner of the Northern Province, orders were given some time ago to open more Quarantine Stations on the Northern Frontier to obviate the long journeys necessary to reach existing Quarantine Stations, and it is a well known fact that the Gold Coast markets are the best markets for this trade. In a conversation with a French cattle trader he admitted this fact, and said that even if we imposed an import duty on cattle it would still pay French cattle traders better to go to Gold Coast markets than to use the market at Bamako, where prices do not run so high.

11. These Quarantine Stations are an absolute necessity, as without them, French infected cattle could come in anywhere and infect the Northern Territories cattle all the way down the road, in fact they did so until restrictions were imposed.

AGRICULTURE.

12. The report on the harvest on the whole is good, except in certain localities and with certain cereals. The rains being very heavy during the wet season a great many of the yams, which were planted in low-lying ground, rotted.

The early millet in Bawku Bari Zouaragu, and Kologu was destroyed by a plague of caterpillars in May, and the later crop was not a success.

The Guinea Corn crop was good, as was the Rice in the Southern Province.

Tobacco is reported as good and is being grown in increasing quantities.

The culture of fruit trees is being taken up seriously by Political Officers, and more especially are they to be raised round Rest Houses in the bush.

13. Attention is being given to experiments in Shea butter. A few areas were cleared before the burning in order to see how the unburnt trees produce as compared to the burnt trees. It is a practice of the natives when about to collect Shea butter in a certain area, to burn this in December or earlier if possible, to get an early crop, also to ensure that the trees are only scorched and not burnt, as they would be if the fire got at them in January or February when the grass is as dry as tinder, and the fires much fiercer.

14. It is the intention of the Government to have ground nuts planted round these experimental Shea-nut areas, this will have the effect of keeping down the bush and weeds, and will be tried next season.

TAMALE AGRICULTURAL STATION.

15. A change has been made here, and now this Station is purely to be used for Arboriculture, and teak, mahogany, etc., are to be planted, next season indigenous trees will be put in for the supply of fire-wood in later years. This is becoming scarce as is always the case in large communities, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.

At Yendi a good bit of thinning has taken place in the teak mahogany plantations, and the waste wood will prove very useful for building work both at Yendi and Tamale.

16. A great deal of tree planting has been done by Political Officers in the year under review—both in the Native Towns and the Stations, and in some cases along the main roads.

INDUSTRIES.

17. Local Industries have been encouraged and samples of various kinds of grass baskets, from both Provinces, have been sent down to the Coast for sale. They are of various kinds, waste paper, strong, round coloured ones with lids, and baskets suitable for carrying earth.

18. The Public Works Department have given a large order for the type of mat made at Daboya in the Southern Province, and for river oyster shells for making lime. This makes an excellent white-wash, and mixed with sand, a fairly good mortar for building purposes.

19. British hand looms were imported and an attempt was made to instruct the native weavers, but this met with no success, however, the Headmaster of the Yendi Trade School and one of the African Masters have now learnt the art and it is hoped that the boys will take to it.

20. Dying, pot making, and leather work are practised locally, and a considerable industry is the drying of fish, which is done by Coast Natives who come up the Volta from Adda during the fishing season, from December to August. These men have encampments on the sandbanks in the low river and pay a subsidy to riparian Chiefs for fishing rights.

21. Efforts are being made to interest the inhabitants in the Shea butter industry—which is now only carried on in a small way owing to the transportation difficulties.

22. String making is still carried on in Northern Mamprusi, but with the falling of the price of imported string, there is not such a demand for it on the Coast as there was last year.

23. The Péres Blancs at Navarro have been teaching their pupils how to make an excellent type of rope mat.

Very good clay pipes are also made in the North, but except as curios, and locally, there is no demand for these.

24. Cattle and Sheep breeding is being carried on under the Veterinary Department, with what success cannot be said until the calves and lambs are born. The English stock all died after a few months, but this industry is being persisted in and it is hoped we shall have better luck with the next lot of bulls and rams.

25. There is a large and somewhat new industry which is growing apace, that of taking fowls and guinea fowls to Coomassie and the Coast. Hundreds of fowls may be seen picketed out at the various Caravan halting places. This trade is most remunerative, if prices asked in the north are any indication.

26. Efforts are being made at Lorha in the Northern Province, to break oxen to the plough. The Political Officer has had some success with one team up to date.

27. The Government stock farm which was formerly under the Agricultural Department was handed over to the Veterinary Department during the year.

III.—LEGISLATION.

28. There were eleven Ordinances applying to the Northern Territories enacted by the Governor—and Town Rules were amended by the Chief Commissioner.

IV.—EDUCATION.

29. A new departure has been inaugurated under this Head. It was found that the Education in Government Schools merely fitted boys to be Government clerks, schoolmasters, mercantile clerks and time-keepers and it was felt that there would not be enough vacancies to go round, at the same time there was a large field for skilled craftsmen in the Protectorate.

30. A Trade School is now under construction which will accomodate 30 boys the first year, 60 the second, 90 the 3rd, and 120 the fourth year, after

which the fourth year boys are finished, and it is hoped that a long-felt want in the way of skilled labour will be gradually removed as each year makes an extra class available.

An European Headmaster has been appointed with an African master who can teach wood work as well as book work, and a man for teaching masonry has also been appointed. Next year will be added an instructor in iron work.

The boys have been selected with some care from the various Districts, so that all are represented. They are dressed in uniforms of Native cloth and trained as Boy Scouts. They are boarded and have excellent dormitories, and each boy has a plot of ground which is used as a training ground for Agriculture under an Official of that Department.

The School will be opened on February 6th, 1922, and will gradually be extended, and built by the pupils themselves until buildings are available for the total strength. Empty plots have been left for this purpose.

31. The other Government Schools are at Tamale, Wa, Lorha, Gambaga, and Standards I. to VII. form the curriculum. A new school house is nearly ready in Tamale for occupation. The pupils at Tamale School numbered 92 with an average attendance of 68.8 as compared with 60.4 last year.

32. The Peres Blancs at Navarro have re-opened their school which had to be shut down during the war, and have an attendance of 25. The pupils are taught carpentry and masonry, and the native industries of rope making and mat making are also taught.

33. Mohammedan schools are in existence in all the large Mohammedan centres, where Hausa and Arabic readings are taught, and the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

34. Besides the schools already mentioned these consist of Native Hospitals, Post Offices and Dispensaries, in most of the Stations where there are Europeans. Medical Officers are few, but they do a certain amount of travelling.

The Wa Native Hospital is under the supervision of a Medical Officer, as is the Gambaga one.

Yendi has not yet got a hospital, but there are Native Hospitals and Dispensaries at Salaga and Tamale, where Medical Officers are stationed. It is proposed to build a hospital and dispensary at Yendi next year—as there is now a Medical Officer there.

35. There is a Central Prison at Headquarters, and at each Station a small prison is maintained for short sentence prisoners only.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

36. The most prevalent crime was offences against property and of this class of crime the larger part is stock theft in the Northern Province, in the Southern stealing from a house is fairly prevalent.

37. In the North, the success or otherwise of the harvest is a very good indication of the amount of crime which will follow, as the people very often steal stock after a bad harvest for the reason that they are hungry.

38. Civil cases are not at all numerous and many are merely for recovering small debts, women or children.

In the North, before the sowing season, there are frequently disputes as to farm boundaries and as to the ownership of Shea butter and Dorua trees, which often lead to fighting.

Chiefs are encouraged to deal with minor cases, more especially matrimonial squabbles.

39. Comparative table of crimes for the last Four Years :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
The number of Offences reported to the Police	579	587	616	498
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates	579	587	616	498
The number of Summary Convictions:—	—	—	—	—
1. For Offences against the Person	102	101	112	84
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	152	161	155	145
4. For Offences against Health, etc. Acts	19	21	151	25
5. For Regulation of Employment Acts including Acts relating to indentured coolies ..	—	2	23	26
6. For Other Offences	82	119	87	128
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	13	9	2	6
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	14	6	2	5
4. For Other Offences	6	1	8	3
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts ..	111	148	73	70
2. In the Superior Courts ..	14	24	3	6

40. Including the number of convictions in the Superior Courts three death sentences were passed by the Circuit Judge, two confirmed and carried out, and one commuted to penal servitude for life.

One murderer was found by the Circuit Judge to be of unsound mind, and was, under order of the Chief Commissioner, removed to the Lunatic Asylum, Accra.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

EUROPEAN OFFICIALS.

41. Total number about	..	..	..	..	..	63
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	2
Invalidings	..	..	..	..	..	4

AFRICAN OFFICIALS.

Total number not given.						
Invalidings	..	..	..	..	..	nil.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	1

NON-NATIVE NON-OFFICIALS.

Total number	..	..	..	..	..	3
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	1

NATIVE POPULATION.

42. See Census paragraph.

The population consists of the following Tribes—Brong, Nechumru, Gonja, Dagomba, Mamprusi, Kusasi, Chakosi, Nabdam. Nankanni, Talansi, Builsa, Kassina, Lobi, Issala. Dagarti, Grunshi, Willo, Wala. (In Mandated Territory Bimoba, Konkomba, Dagomba, Chamba).

43. The health of the Natives may be generally described as fair, there being a good deal of pneumonia in the Harmattan, and ulcers, elephantiasis, guinea-worm are always to be seen when in the bush villages. Ulcers seem more especially to attack children.

There are certain number of lepers in the Protectorate, but the disease does not appear to be on the increase and the people do not seem to have the slightest fear of it.

WATER SUPPLY.

44. This is obtained from Wells for the most part except in one favoured station where there is a spring. The supply is fairly adequate, but can always be increased when necessary by adding more Wells. Water being easily found, generally at a depth of 30 feet.

It is always necessary to boil and filter the water. The water supply in the country is very bad in the dry season, but the Government are taking steps to gradually dig Wells in the Native villages, which will be a boon when completed.

Up to the present a few Wells only have been dug in outlying villages.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

45. The following table shows the monthly rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last ten years :—

1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
32.36	48.01	33.32	42.65	46.57	55.76	44.45	37.84	36.95	61.77

An average of 43.96.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

46. The Mail Service to and from the South has been very regular during the year. There are special Mail lorries which deliver the Mails twice a week.

The journey is done in two days, except during July, August, and September when the floods make it impossible. North of Tamale, Mails go by carrier supplied by the Chiefs on contract. These Mails arrive and depart once a week.

The telegraph service is not so satisfactory, telegrams often arriving some days after despatch from Coomassie. There were over 100 interruptions to the telegraph line this year.

The abnormal flood in the Volta made the overhead wire useless and the operator had to cross the river daily to get connection, from August 29th to October 29th.

In Wa, Bole, and Gambaga, though the line goes to these stations, no telegraph Clerks are supplied. The Clerk of the Political Service has to do his best to receive and despatch telegrams and has to learn Morse to do so.

The change of Provinces has caused a little extra work for Mail delivery in the Northern Province, but this has been got over and the Mails are run on satisfactory lines, by a system of runners meeting at prescribed places and exchanging mail bags.

47. The Revenue collected at the Tamale Post Office was £443 17s. 11d. a decrease of £13 6s. 4½d. as compared with 1920.

Postal Orders issued with poundage to the value of ..	£957	9	0
Money Orders „ „ „ commission „ „ ..	£373	7	9

TELEGRAMS.

Inland Messages forwarded.

Paid	Official.
1,276	4,422

Inland Messages Received.

Paid	Official.
1,049	4,274

Inland Messages Transmitted.

Paid	Official.
127	250

CABLEGRAMS.

<i>Forwarded.</i>	<i>Received.</i>	<i>Transmitted.</i>
Paid.	Paid.	Paid.
23	21	2, Total 11,444.

MAIL BAGS DEALT WITH AT TAMALE POST OFFICE.

1,279 bags of Mails.
207 packets.

IX.—RELIGION.

48. At Navarro, the French Canadian Pères Blancs, of whom there were three, lost one of their number, the Reverend Father Doyon.

The numbers of various Religions as taken in the Census were including Mandated Area :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
804	28,416	574,234.

Most of the Mohammedans live in the Southern Province with the exception of such places as Wa, Gambaga, Wale Wale, and Bawku in the Northern.

Larabanga, Bole, Salaga are the chief centres of Mohammedanism in the Southern Province, and to a lesser extent Daboya.

The great majority are Pagans, and in this connection many registered Mohammedans in the South are only so in name, and are by no means strict followers of their adopted religion.

49. The Pagans all have their fetish, which is generally a Stone, a Tree, or Lightning, and it is a common sight to see a tree dressed in cloth to propitiate the evil spirit living up in the branches; also when cutting timber for building it is often necessary to take a local Native, or Fetish trees will be cut down to the great tribulation of the people.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

50. The Northern Territories Constabulary have been increased in both European and African Staff, formerly the European Officers numbered two, whereas at the present time there are four and two vacancies. This increase has made it possible to have Officers out on inspection duty in the outstations, and has tended to increase the efficiency of the Force.

The strength is now six Officers, two of whom had their appointments deferred to 1922, and 418 other ranks—total 424.

The discipline has been good. Every Officer and man has been trained according to 1914 Infantry Training, during the year.

Improvements have been made in the Northern Territories Constabulary buildings and new lines are being built for the men.

Three hundred and forty-five men were exercised in musketry, the figure of merit being 114.8 and the percentage of hits in fields practices 259.

PRISONS.

51. The Central Prison at Tamale is the only one of any importance, all other prisons sending any men who are sentenced to anything over six months, to Headquarters.

There were 272 prisoners admitted in Tamale Gaol during the year of whom one was a Christian, 55 were Mohammedans, and 216 were Pagans.

The Prison Staff consists of the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, one African Keeper of Prisons, one Chief Warder, two Third Class Warders, and 23 Temporary Warders, on an average.

The cost for the year was £1,424 14s. 8d.

One male prisoner escaped during the year.

Six deaths occurred, and two executions.

Fifty-two were admitted to hospital during the year.

Daily average number in prison was 90.2.

The prisoners are mostly employed in Sanitary work and water carrying,

clearing bush, etc. and those who are not allowed outside made rope from Sisal hemp, and some shoe-making and repairing is done, tailoring and washing.

Rations are now brought in by the Chiefs who sell the produce to the Officer in Charge of Prisons at the rate of 2½d per diem per man.

The prison farm is also kept up as a food supply.

52. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, except in so far as capital offences are concerned, those latter are now tried by a Circuit Judge.

Relations with the French have been cordial during the year under review, and visits have been exchanged.

The Chiefs in the Protectorate have helped the Government by every means in their power in the way of supplying necessary labour for road making.

GOVERNOR'S VISIT.

53. This year formed a milestone in transportation. His Excellency the Governor motored from Coomassie to Tamale and from Tamale to the North visiting Gambaga, Zouaragu, Navarro, and Sandema, and also Bawku, this latter place was reached on horseback, owing to the White and Red Voltas not being drifted, otherwise the roads could have been easily made motorable.

French Officers motored down from across the boundary and lunched with His Excellency, having come all the way from Wagadugu.

54. The whole Protectorate has been well travelled by Political Officers during the year, and the Chief Commissioner went on along trek in the spring, visiting the Wa, Lorha, Tumu Districts and parts of Northern and Southern Mamprusi.

The District Officers are continually on the move in their respective areas, and come in at the end of the month for some days to pay, square up Treasury Accounts, and generally attend to routine work.

Travelling in the wet season had to be practically abandoned, owing to the flooded state of the country and the difficulty in getting about.

55. The Deputy Chief Commissioner accompanied His Excellency the Governor to most of the Districts, which were missed later by the Chief Commissioner, so that it may be said that the whole Protectorate was visited by one or the other.

ADMINISTRATION.

56. The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate from January 1st to October 22nd, when it was taken over by Major H. Walker Leigh, Deputy Chief Commissioner, until the end of the year.

57. This year has been one of great changes in the Administrative control. In the early part of the year the Protectorate was reduced from three Provinces, the North-West, North-East, and Southern, to two, namely, the Eastern and Western.

When His Excellency the Governor came to discuss these alterations with Political Officers, it became evident that the obvious division, if into two Provinces, should be Northern and Southern Provinces, as by this division the Gonja Tribe was kept intact instead of being cut in two, and the Provincial Commissioner of the Southern, had a Province containing the whole of the Gonja as well as the Dagomba Tribes, while the Commissioner of the Northern Province had, in half his area, tribes under one Paramount Chief, the Na of Mamprusi, and in his Western area, though not under any one Paramount Chief, the people have the same habits and characteristics as in the Eastern part.

58. The first change came into force on the 20th of January and the second on the 27th of June.

59. Minor changes were also made in the nomenclature of Districts and their boundaries.

The Divisions now consist of—

Northern Province—under a Provincial Commissioner.

Northern Mamprusi.

Southern Mamprusi.

Lorha Tumu.

Wa.

Mandated Area added to North and South Mamprusi.

Southern Province—under a Provincial Commissioner stationed at Tamale.

Eastern Dagomba, Mandated Area.

Western Dagomba.

Eastern Gonja, Mandated Area added.

Western Gonja.

60. A new system of permanent stations for Political Officers also came into force.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

61. There have been no riots or trouble of any sort except a little arrow shooting amongst the Konkombas in the Mandated Area. This was more or less a drunken brawl after a market day, and 8 men escaped over to French country ; on a murder charge—an attempt to extradite them has not been successful.

62. On the Western Frontier trouble was reported early in the year between the French Lobis and the French—and incidentally some British Lobis were murdered. Patrols of the Northern Territories Constabulary were kept for some time at hand, but were withdrawn later, and from latest reports matters seem to have returned to the normal, though an occasional murder, caused by a blood feud of long standing, may be committed.

63. The Paramount Chief of Savelugu died and it became necessary for successor to be elected. After many months funeral custom, the Chiefs repaired to Yendi accompanied by the Deputy Chief Commissioner for the purpose of electing the new Chief, and Abdulai, Chief of Bamvim of the Royal House of Yendi, was elected after a somewhat prolonged sitting. He has been a splendid man for the Government ever since we came to Tamale, and his election was very popular except with some of the other candidates who, later on, came and swore allegiance to the new Chief.

THE GOLD COAST REGIMENT.

64. ' A ' Company left for manoeuvres early in the year and ' C ' Company took their place, on the completion of the training.

ROADS.

65. Owing to the abnormal rains during the wet season much damage was done to roads in all parts of the Protectorate, and this damage was made good as far as it could be in the time. The work is still going on and great improvements are being made in the Tamale-Yeji road, permanent bridges are gradually replacing temporary ones, and stone revetted embankments are being constructed. Some new roads have been begun and early in 1922 it should be possible to motor from Coomassie to Wa and south of it via Salaga, Tamale, Nasia, Navarro, Nakon, Tumu Han, but this would only be possible in the dry weather.

REST HOUSES.

66. There are Rest Houses all over the Protectorate, and tents are rarely required. These Rest Houses are kept by the Chiefs under the orders of the District Commissioners, who pay a small annual sum for their up-keep. It is a noticeable fact that the further from civilization the better the Rest Houses.

FERRIES.

67. There are two Ferries under control of the Government the Yeji Ferry and the Buipe or Morno Ferry. The latter was only started in March, when the river was fordable up to the end of May, during which time no tolls were collected. From that time to the end of the year the tolls amounted to £674 18s. 3d.

The tolls collected at the Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,383 2s. 6d., a decrease of £40 13s. 0d. as compared with 1920.

It is gratifying to hear that since the new Ferry at Morno has been started, no complaints have come in as to extortion there, which was very much the case when it was under the Chief of Buipe.

The Yeji Ferry has also a raft for the crossing of motor cars, which is very quickly and efficiently done.

TRANSPORT.

68. Mechanical transport works between Coomassie and Tamale and was only stopped for $2\frac{1}{2}$ months during the year in spite of the heavy rainfall. At that time it became necessary to fall back on carrier transport. This naturally tended to congestion of loads at the place of origin, Coomassie, and a certain amount of inconvenience was experienced, and a lot of material for building was delayed.

PUBLIC WORKS.

69. A separate report by the Executive Engineer has already been sent in, and in this connection it is only necessary to report that the Political and Public Works Department are now working most successfully together, and the results are good and the expenditure less comparatively.

Buildings were going up at a good rate during the latter part of the year, but were delayed by want of material.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

70. There is very little immigration, though a few natives from the French Mandated Area have settled in the British sphere, and a few Hausas come and settle in the various Zongos. The usual migration of French Natives seeking work in the South continues, but most of these boys return to their country after short periods.

LABOUR.

71. See under Financial.

The ordinary labour at 6d. a day is difficult to obtain now, but Chiefs have been very good in helping with labour on contract, and on roads and bridges.

CENSUS.

72. The Census was taken this year under considerable difficulties and including Mandated Areas, amounted to 603,454, being 320,163 males—283,291 females—as against 361 thousand odd in 1911.

Without Mandated Territory it amounted to 527,914. The increase is due to natural causes in spite of epidemics and the fact that the country has become much quieter during the last decade, so that it was possible for Political Officers to penetrate Areas which could only be guessed in 1911.

VETERINARY.

73. There are Stock farms at Yendi, Tamale, Wa, and Lorha, and during the year Veterinary Officers were stationed at Tamale, Wa, and Zouaragu, but up to date it is too early to say what the results of importing British breeding stock will be. The Veterinary Officers have done a lot travelling and inoculation of contact and infected cattle, more especially in the North, where rinderpest was more rife than in the South.

74. A Census of cattle, sheep, goats, horses was taken and gives the following results :—69,529 cattle—242,371 sheep and goats—8,509 donkeys 2,553 horses.

This is the first time a complete census of animals has been done in the Protectorate and should be valuable in after years for comparison.

Fowls have been imported from England with the idea of getting a larger breed of bird through the country.

Turkeys are more often seen than formerly, these are, or have been, brought up the river from near Kitta.

SUITABILITY OF CLIMATE FOR EUROPEANS

AND

OPENINGS FOR WHITE LABOUR.

75. Taking into consideration the numbers shown on the sick list it cannot be said that the climate is suitable to Europeans, more especially in the early twenties. These younger ones seem to be always sick, and speaking as a layman and with all due deference, it appears that men of over 35 years of age stand the climate far better than their juniors.

The heat in February and March is trying, but in January and December the nights and early mornings are very cool.

There are no suitable openings at the present time for White labour.

SURVEYS.

76. No surveys have been made this year, owing to the fact that the instruments applied for did not arrive in time for any useful work to be done before the grass got too high.

H. W. LEIGH,

*Acting Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.*

TAMALE,

16TH FEBRUARY, 1922.

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COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

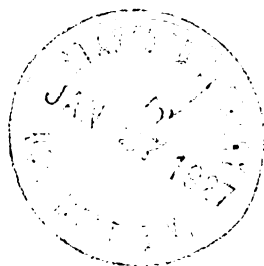
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1127.

GIBRALTAR.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1081.)



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GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.

INTRODUCTION.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Gibraltar is a narrow peninsula three miles in length and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile in breadth, with a total area of $1\frac{7}{8}$ square miles, situated in latitude $36^{\circ} 7' 16''$ North, and longitude $5^{\circ} 21' 13''$ West near the Southern extremity of Spain, being joined to the mainland by a low sandy isthmus. It consists of a long high mountain, the ridge of which, from north to south, divides it into two unequal parts. The extreme height of the "Rock," as the mountain is commonly called, is 1,396 feet. The town is built on the western and southern sides, which face the Bay. The northern and eastern faces of the Rock are an inaccessible cliff, forming a series of rugged precipices at the foot of which, on the eastern side, confronting the Mediterranean, stands the small fishing village of Catalan Bay.

HISTORICAL.

Gibraltar was known to the ancients as Mons Calpe, one of the Pillars of Hercules, the other being Mount Abyla, or Apes Hill, on the opposite coast of Africa. It was possessed successively by the Phœnicians, the Carthaginians, the Romans, and the Visigoths, but remained uninhabited till the Mahomedan invasion of Spain.

In 711 the Moorish Chief, Tarik-Ibn-Zeyad, landed on the Rock, and gave it the name of Gibel-Tarik, or Mountain of Tarik, of which the name of Gibraltar is a corruption. It remained in Moorish hands until 1309, when it was seized by the Spaniards.

In 1333 it was again taken by the Moors, but was wrested from the Moslem dynasty in 1462, and reverted to the dominion of Spain.

In 1704 it was captured by the British forces under Admiral Sir George Rooke during the war of the Spanish Succession, and was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, renewed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783. Many attempts have been made to retake Gibraltar, especially during the great siege in 1779-83, when General Elliot (afterwards Lord Heathfield) defended it against the united forces of Spain and France, but all have been unsuccessful, and it has remained in British hands since its capture in 1704.

The Governor, who is in command of the Garrison, exercises all the functions of government and legislation, there being no Executive or Legislative Council.

CLIMATE.

The general climate of Gibraltar is mild and temperate, though somewhat hot and oppressive during the months of July and August. The meteorological record for 1921 shows 70.2° as the mean maximum temperature, the highest shade temperature being 91° on the 3rd August, and the lowest 42° on the 15th and 16th January and 8th February. The rainy season spreads over the period from September to May; the annual average rainfall is 35 in., but in 1921 38.89 in. was registered, of which 15.08 in. fell in February.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The price of food and consequent cost of living showed a slight decline during the year under review, though the former remains considerably higher than that ruling in the United Kingdom, especially as regards necessities such as bread, tinned milk and groceries.

The world-wide depression in trade was felt severely in Gibraltar, and affected the shipping and coaling interests in particular. As the Colony has no agriculture and practically no industries its prosperity depends entirely on its commerce, so that trade depression has a more widespread and immediate effect on its community than is the case in other differently situated colonies or countries.

On 30th April His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Japan visited Gibraltar on his way to England, and remained until the 3rd May. A series of entertainments was prepared and carried out, and a banquet was given in his honour by His Excellency the Governor. The weather throughout was ideal, and His Imperial Highness on his departure expressed himself delighted at his visit to the Rock, and highly gratified at the reception given him by the inhabitants.

On 29th October His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales landed at Gibraltar on his way to India, being received on landing by His Excellency the Governor and a Guard of Honour. Loyal addresses of welcome were presented by the Exchange Committee, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Workers' Union, to which His Royal Highness made a gracious reply. He then drove through Main Street which was gaily decorated for the occasion, subsequently being entertained at lunch by His Excellency the Governor. In the afternoon he inspected a grand parade of school children at the Alameda, and was present afterwards at a Garden Party at Government House. In the evening His Royal Highness gave a dinner party on board H.M.S. "Renown," sailing for Malta the same night.

On the 1st December, the Board of Sanitary Commissioners, which had been in existence for some 56 years, was replaced by a new City Council, a portion of the members of which are elected by popular franchise. The event was of great importance to the Colony, being the first occasion on which public elections have ever taken place. It is most creditable to the interest taken in the new Council that, in spite of the heavy rain which fell throughout the day of the elections, nearly 75 per cent of the voters on the lists recorded their votes. In three wards out of the four, candidates supported by the Workers' Union were successful at the polls, a result due in large measure to the excellent organization of the Union in question. The new Council chose as Chairman one of the newly elected members, so that the municipal affairs of Gibraltar are now in the hands of a body composed largely of members elected by the inhabitants on a broad franchise, and with a Chairman selected from amongst that number.

During the year an immense improvement was made to the City by the widening of the bottle neck entrance at the north of the town, by removing part of a building which had hitherto constituted a narrow and awkward corner, greatly impeding traffic. The construction of a new road into the Fortress across the Glacis, the building of a flight of steps down to the road skirting the harbour, and the removal of a number of awkward corners have also increased the amenities of the town and opened it up, more particularly to motor traffic which increases every year.

VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

According to the Census taken on the 19th of June, the Civil population was 18,540—8,828 males and 9,712 females—and is composed of 16,753 British subjects, 407 aliens resident in the Bay, and 1,380 aliens resident in the Town. Aliens are only allowed to reside temporarily in the Colony under a permit issued by the police.

The total number of births in 1921 was 429; of these 205 were males and 224 females. The birth-rate for the year amounted to 25·6 per 1,000 of the fixed population. Aliens are not permitted to give birth in Gibraltar.

282 deaths occurred among British subjects, and 10 amongst aliens temporarily resident. The crude death-rate per 1,000 of the fixed population was 15·74, that of the total population 16·83. The death-rate from principal acute infectious diseases was 1·78 per 1,000, and from Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1·6 per 1,000. The infantile mortality rate of 102·5 per 1,000 is still high, though it shows a marked improvement compared with the previous year when it stood at 128 per 1,000 births.

The general sanitary condition of the Colony was excellent, and with the exception of an outbreak of measles of a mild type, has been free from epidemic diseases during the year. The sanitary work of the Colony is carried out by the City Council, who have also charge of roads, lighting and cleansing, together with the enforcement of proper sanitary measures in dwellings, and the provision of water supply.

II.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The totals of Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the past five years are as follows:—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
1917	... ..	125,876	...	119,636
1918	... ..	158,693	...	133,387
1919	... ..	239,397	...	136,432
1920	... ..	287,051	...	372,994*
1921	... ..	249,133	...	289,393*

There is no Public debt.

The only additional taxation introduced during the year 1921 was an increase ranging from $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. in the duty on tobacco.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

Assets.

			£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank and Chest and in hands of Sub-Accountants ... ..	...	...	49,197	15	8
Advances due to Government ... ..	...	...	4,012	0	10
Imprests ... ..	...	...	55	0	0
Investments:—					
General Revenue	£261,420	8	10		
Notes, Security Funds	160,000	0	0		
Savings Bank	172,138	3	8		
			593,558	12	6
Investments on account of Deposits:—					
Supreme Court Funds	36,702	14	5		
Custodian Enemy Property	3,670	1	3		
			40,372	15	8
Currency Notes in Circulation ... ..	...	...	174,651	16	0
Stores Suspense Account ... ..	...	...	2,471	8	6
			£864,319	9	2

Liabilities.

			£	s.	d.
Deposits due by Government ... ..	...	...	398,798	15	7½
Currency Notes Security Fund ... ..	...	...	160,000	0	0
Drafts and Remittances ... ..	...	...	13,550	0	0
Investments Depreciation Account ... ..	...	...	143,700	1	4
			716,048	16	11½
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities ...			148,270	12	3
			£864,319	9	2½

* Includes provision made for depreciation on invested funds, viz., £117,837 in 1920, and £38,469 in 1921.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

The legal tender of the Colony is British currency, and the accounts in Government Departments are so kept, but Spanish currency circulates freely. The fact that a very large portion of supplies of foodstuffs, etc., is obtained from Spain necessitates payment being made in the currency of that country. Many merchants and traders keep their accounts in pesetas and centimos and dollars and cents.

The rate for conversion of British into Spanish currency is governed by the Stock Exchange at Madrid and telegraphed daily to the banks at Gibraltar. The average for the year was 28 pesetas 40 centimos to the pound sterling.

Colonial Government Currency Notes are in circulation to the amount of £174,651. These Notes were issued under the Bank Note Ordinance, 1914, and are of values £50, £5, £1, 10s., and 2s.

A Government Savings Bank which was established in 1882 is worked under the administration of the Post Office. The total number of depositors on 31st December, 1921, was 3,493, with deposits amounting to £157,112. Interest is paid at the rate of a half-penny on each complete sum of twenty shillings per mensem.

There are four private banks who have correspondents in all the principal cities of the world, and offer every facility for the transaction of banking business, viz :—

The Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ltd., Head Office, 27, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, London, E.C.4.

The Credit Foncier d'Algerie et de Tunisie, Head Office, 43, Rue Cambon, Paris.

A. L. Galliano, of Gibraltar.

Messrs. Rugeroni Bros. & Co., of Gibraltar.

III.—TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The staple trade is the supply of coal, stores, and fresh water to shipping, as Gibraltar is pre-eminently a coaling station. A fair amount of business is also carried on in connection with the transit cargo to Morocco and Spain.

The total number of vessels coaled during the year was 2,672, and the quantity of coal taken was 595,392 tons.

Statistics of imports and exports (except such as are necessary for revenue purposes) are not kept, the only dutiable goods being wines, spirits, malt liquors and tobacco.

The only industries in Gibraltar are connected with shipping and the manufacture of tobacco. At the foundries and yards situated on the North Front, boats, lighters, and steam launches are built and repaired, and extensive repairs are often carried out to both hulls and machinery of vessels calling here.

There is no land in Gibraltar capable of cultivation.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

Thirteen Laws were enacted during the year, only five of which have interest other than local, viz :—

Ordinance No. 3—Enabling the Supreme Court to attach, after writ issued, the money, goods and chattels in Gibraltar of a debtor ordinarily resident out of the jurisdiction to answer a claim in respect of a debt or liquidated demand.

Ordinance No. 4—Imposing an increased duty on tobacco imported.

Ordinance No. 6—Facilitating the enforcement in Gibraltar of Maintenance Orders made in England and Ireland, and vice versa.

Ordinance No. 8—Providing for the Reciprocal Enforcement of judgments in Gibraltar and in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions.

Ordinance No. 9—Amending Ordinance No. 6.

V.—EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

The scholastic year ended 31st March, 1922, has been an eventful one.

Following the recommendation of Mr. H. H. Hancock, M.A., Director of Education, Trinidad, who was sent out by the Secretary of State in 1920 to report on the Education system of Gibraltar, a local Board of Education to advise generally on all matters relating to Government-aided schools in the Colony was constituted as follows :—

The Colonial Secretary (Chairman).

The President, Roman Catholic Schools' Committee.

The Director of the Christian Brothers Government-aided Schools.

Three representatives of the Roman Catholic Schools.

One representative of each of the two undenominational schools.

The Resident Inspector of Schools—ex officio Secretary of the Board.

The Government grant-in-aid per pupil in average attendance during the school year was increased from £2 to £3 10s.

The collection of school pence was made voluntary instead of obligatory.

Books and equipment are now issued to pupils free of charge, and for this purpose a special grant is made to the several School Committees, ranging, according to standard, from 2s. to 16s. for

each child appearing on the roll on the last day of the scholastic year.

Mr. E. Glasgow, an Inspector from the Home Board of Education, visited Gibraltar for the purpose of examining the Government-aided Schools and reporting on their efficiency. As a result of his inspection all the schools, with two exceptions, were allowed the full grant.

Education is compulsory in the case of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years.

There are 10 school buildings containing 16 Government-aided schools for primary education—12 Roman Catholic, 2 Hebrew and 2 undenominational.

The Roman Catholic Schools are conducted by the Christian Brothers and Nuns of the Order of Loretto, and the undenominational schools by lay teachers, and the various schools are under the immediate management of local committees.

The total number of scholars on the registers was 2,629, and the average number in attendance 2,230.

In order to enforce the attendance of children, an officer of police is deputed, under the Compulsory Education Ordinance, to act as Attendance Officer, and he visits the schools weekly to examine attendance books and note absentees; 363 cases against the parents and guardians of defaulting children were dealt with by the Police Magistrate in 1921.

The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the Surgical Staff of the Colonial Hospital, and in addition to the examination of physically defective children and of those suffering from bad sight, regular inspections at schools are made and reports submitted by the surgeons, who give advice and treatment gratis.

SECONDARY.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony, viz :—

Line Wall College, for boys, conducted by the Christian Brothers.

Convents of Loretto and St. Francis Xavier, for girls, under the Nuns of the Loretto Order.

“Brympton,” a Church of England school, for boys and girls, managed by a local committee, and conducted by lay teachers.

“Brighthurst,” for boys and girls, under the directorship of Mr. E. Martin.

In these educational establishments pupils are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the Examination of the London College of Preceptors, both of which are held annually. In addition to the above there are a number of private schools with about 300 pupils, but the instruction given is mainly of an elementary character.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

POSTAL.

British and Continental mails are forwarded and received daily by overland route—via Spain and France—and there is a daily steam service in connection with this mail service, between Gibraltar and the Spanish town of Algeciras, for which the Colonial Government pays the Andaluces Railway Company, under contract, an annual subsidy of £750.

Correspondence for Egypt and places eastward of Suez is forwarded weekly by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company steamers, and the Orient Line steamers also carry mails for Naples.

Ship mails for Malta, Algiers, and Naples are made up and despatched by merchant steamers by every practicable opportunity, and mails for Morocco are carried by Bland's line of steamers twice a week.

There is also a Parcel Post service with the United Kingdom, and parcels may be sent to nearly all countries in the Postal Union.

Overland mails from Gibraltar reach London in about three days and a half.

TELEGRAPH.

The Government land lines connecting Gibraltar with the Spanish towns of San Roque, Cadiz, Malaga and Cordoba are worked by the Eastern Telegraph Company who, under a special agreement, pay £300 annually to the Colonial Government.

The Eastern Telegraph Company have a station at Gibraltar where telegrams are accepted for all parts of the world.

Commercial and private messages for transmission by the Naval Wireless Station to merchant vessels at sea in the neighbourhood are also accepted at the offices of the Eastern Telegraph Company and, similarly, wireless messages received from ships are delivered by that Company.

TELEPHONES.

There are no telephones under Colonial Government control. There is a telephone service worked as a commercial undertaking by a private individual, which allows certain facilities to public departments. The Naval and Military departments have their own lines which are connected with the Civil Exchange.

ROADS.

The upkeep of roads is in the hands of the City Council in whom they are vested by law. The length of roads open for traffic is—three miles in the City, or Northern District, three miles in the

South District, and about two miles in the North Front and Catalan Bay District.

Roads in the City are narrow, those in the other districts are fairly wide. All are in excellent condition and are suitable for motor traffic.

There are no railways or tramways in Gibraltar.

SHIPPING.

Owing to its geographical position, Gibraltar is extensively used as a port of call and a coaling station by vessels of every nationality.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered Gibraltar during 1921.

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
3,924	7,265,094	992	68,554	4,916	7,333,648

As compared with 1920, there was a decrease of 1,580 in the number of vessels entering the port, with an aggregate tonnage of 4,280,539 tons—a decrease of 1,458 steamers and of 122 sailing vessels.

The principal lines which call regularly at this Port are :—

Weekly.—The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

Fortnightly.—Orient Line, Anchor Line, Cunard Line, Ellerman Line, White Star Line, Union-Castle Line, Wescott and Lawrence, Power Steamship Co., Byron Steamship Company, Hall Line, Société Générale de Transport Maritime à Vapeur, Royal Netherland Steamship Co., Royal Nederland and West India Mail Line, Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland, Holland-America Line.

Monthly.—Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Swedish Morocco Line.

In addition to the above, Bland's local line of steamers make frequent sailings to and from the Moroccan, Algerian and Spanish ports, and there is a daily steam service between Gibraltar and the town of Algeciras on the opposite side of the Bay.

The length of passage from London to Gibraltar is about four and a half days.

C. W. J. ORR,
Colonial Secretary.

GIBRALTAR,
12th June, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"

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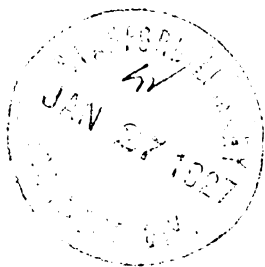
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1128.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1094.)



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ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1921.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in $13^{\circ} 10'$ N. latitude, and $60^{\circ} 57'$ W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land, about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of nine miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The prosperity of St. Vincent is wholly dependent upon agriculture. The main crops are cotton, syrup and arrowroot.

The general depression in the Colony owing to the unremunerative prices for cotton, syrup and arrowroot, which obtained in 1920, continued throughout the year. The high prices for foodstuffs and

clothing were also maintained and this, added to the hurricane which visited the island on the 8th September, 1921, and did extensive damage to property and widespread damage to staple and native food crops, entailed considerable hardship on the populace.

The hurricane which struck the island destroyed 729 and damaged 1,292 dwelling houses in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Many churches and schools were also materially damaged and the entire telephone system collapsed. Nine vessels were wrecked with the loss of many lives.

Measures of relief were immediately instituted; free issues of food and grants of money, lumber and materials, to the value of £3,295, were made to those who suffered by the storm.

His Excellency The Governor was resident in the Colony from the 27th October to the 10th November, 1921.

His Honour R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G., Administrator, was absent from the Colony on leave from the 14th to 17th January, and on duty leave from 29th March to 11th April, while attending the Education Conference in Trinidad. He was also absent on duty leave from 7th to 11th September in Grenada, during his absence the Government was administered by His Honour S. J. Thomas, Chief Justice.

There are 284 miles of public roads affording communication in all directions. Motor cars continue to be substituted for horses and carriages.

St. Vincent has the reputation of being one of the most law-abiding communities in the West Indies. The total number of criminal convictions for the last ten years was 103 for an average annual population of 43,162, equivalent to 238 per 1,000 of population.

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry; the dry season from January to May, with an average rainfall of 4.04 in. per month, and the wet season from June to December, with an average of 8.22 in. per month. The coolest months are December to April.

The temperature throughout the year varied from 76.9° F. to 80.2° F. The highest was in July and the lowest in March. Meteorological records for 1921 show that the mean monthly temperature was 78.8° F.

The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 85.96 in. as compared with 85.51 in. in 1920. Rain fell on two hundred days, and the greatest fall for one day was 2.75 in. on the 8th October.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation and temperature, ranged from 30.64 in. on the 27th July, to 29.629 in. on the 8th September.

At 10 o'clock a.m. on 8th September, St. Vincent experienced a gale of hurricane force which blew from the north-east, gradually

varying, and from the south-east at 7.30 p.m. The correct reading of the barometer at 9 a.m. was 29.925, this steadily dropped until between 5.30 and 6 p.m., when it stood at 29.629, after which it gradually rose to normal.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1921, was :—

Surplus at 1st January, 1921	...	...	£12,013	10	7
Revenue in 1921	...	...	53,805	11	0
					<hr/>
			65,819	1	7
Expenditure in 1921	...	...	56,220	13	7
					<hr/>
Surplus at 31st December, 1921	...	...	£9,598	8	0

In this amount is included a sum of £1,042 18s. 6d., unspent balance at 31st December, 1921, of the Windward Highway Loan.

The total Revenue and Expenditure from all sources in the last three financial periods were :—

					Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
*1919	...	...	...	...	34,111	35,361
1920	...	...	...	...	58,221	52,302
1921	...	...	...	...	53,806	56,221

The net local Revenue and Expenditure amounted to :—

					Local Revenue. £	Expenditure against Local Revenue. £
*1919	...	...	...	...	32,851	33,094
1920	...	...	...	...	58,221	52,302
1921	...	...	...	...	53,806	56,221

The principal items of Revenue in the last three financial periods were :—

		*1919. £	1920. £	1921. £
Import Duties	...	13,084	21,744	16,163
Export Duties	...	1,512	4,233	2,987
Excise Duty on Rum	...	4,777	4,637	4,947
Land and House Tax	...	4,897	7,697	5,442
Income Tax	...	849	2,630	5,193

* This represents nine months, April to December, 1919.

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902-3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

Public Debt.

The public debt at 31st December, 1921, was £11,900, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the Town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £3,176 on the 31st December, 1921, of which £2,603 was in respect of Government Loans, and £573 of the Kingstown Board Loan.

The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to Planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £1,762 on the 31st December, 1921. On that date there had been received from Planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £1,804, of which £1,559 was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Currency.

British and American Gold, Five Dollar Notes of the Colonial Bank, and British Silver and Bronze Coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and Commercial and Banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1921 was 44,447, according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1921, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 45,295 persons.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years:—

	1920.	1921.
Births	1,998	1,763
Males	1,046	896
Females	952	867
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	36·99	38·92
Deaths	1,008	1,058
Death-rate per 1,000	18·66	23·36
Marriages	159	97
Marriage-rate per 1,000	2·94	2·14

Illegitimate births numbered 1,237 or 70·2 per cent. of the total number of all births.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1920 and 1921 were:—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £	Total Trade. £
1920	257,230	299,650	556,880
1921	144,543	137,718	282,261

Produce of the Colony to the value of £130,739 was exported in 1921 as against £294,054 in 1920.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years:—

	1920. £	1921. £
United Kingdom	83,518	39,058
Canada	70,978	36,869
British West Indies	15,764	8,811
India	957	1,673
Newfoundland	1,818	6,339
Other British Colonies	6,983	3,778
United States of America	72,739	37,385
France	560	324
Denmark	231	11
Holland	251	582
Foreign West Indies	861	792
Germany	—	111
Other Countries	2,570	8,810
	<u>£257,230</u>	<u>£144,543</u>

The decreases in the values of imports and exports were due to the general depression in trade, and in the case of exports to the great reduction in the values of the articles exported.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained:—

	1920.	1921.
United Kingdom	32·46	27·02
United States of America	28·27	25·86
Canada	27·59	25·51
All other countries	11·66	21·60

The following is a summary of the imports for the year:—

	£
Food, Drink and Tobacco	57,051
Articles mainly manufactured	64,455
Articles mainly unmanufactured	15,502
Miscellaneous and unclassified	7,535
	<u>£144,543</u>

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1920 and 1921 were as follows:—

	1920. £	1921. £
United Kingdom	215,538	85,280
Canada	29,851	11,300
United States of America	538	—
British West Indies	43,984	32,056
British Guiana	4,015	1,674
Other countries	128	429
	<u>£294,054</u>	<u>£130,739</u>

The principal products of the Colony exported were:—

	1920. £	1921. £
Arrowroot	52,771	21,216
Cotton—		
Sea-Island	163,443	70,532
Marie Galante	15,508	89
Cocoa	4,956	2,259
Sugar—		
Crystallised	—	3,364
Muscovado	—	150
Syrup and Molasses	27,828	9,878
Cassava Starch	3,844	1,666
Peanuts	10,816	4,474
Animals	2,995	4,663
Cotton-seed Oil	2,217	299
Vegetables, Fresh	2,742	4,595
Peas	982	1,472

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy Seed Cotton and Corn (maize) on profit-sharing terms.

There was considerable competition with private dealers for the purchase of Sea-Island Cotton in 1921, and no Marie Galante was purchased by the Factory, the bulk of it having been sold to dealers in Carriacou, Grenada.

The Corn, when kiln dried, amounted to 165,232 lb., and was stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1922.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1919-20 and 1920-21:—

	1919-20. lb.	1920-21. lb.
Sea-Island seed cotton	332,773	78,236
Marie Galante ...	288,504	—
Corn on cob	92,672	85,018
Corn, grain	83,842	106,077
	176,514	191,095

Cotton.—During the year the area planted was 3,998 acres, a decrease of 3,956 acres in that planted in the previous year, of which 2,907 was in Sea-Island and 1,091 in Marie Galante. Cotton-Seed is used extensively as a fertilizer.

Sea-Island Cotton amounting to 502,398 lb. of the value of £70,532 was exported during the year, as against 475,650 lb., value £163,443 in 1920.

Marie Galante—2,380 lb., value £89 in 1921, as against 77,540 lb., value £15,508 in 1920.

Sugar.—The Sugar-Cane industry continued to be an important one.

Crystallized—349,440 lb., value £3,364, and Muscovado, 17,920 lb., value £150 was exported in 1921.

Syrup and Molasses.—117,157 gallons of the value of £9,878 were exported in 1921, as against 185,999 gallons of the value of £27,828 in the previous year.

Rum.—31,995 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing an increase of 11,848 gallons on the previous year. Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 507 gallons as compared with 10,482 gallons in 1920.

Arrowroot.—This article continues to be unremunerative. 2,093,358 lb. of the value of £21,216 was exported, as compared with 2,794,532 lb., valued at £52,771 in 1920.

Peanuts.—5,583 bushels, value £4,474 were exported, as against 12,017 bushels of the value of £10,816 in 1920.

There are twenty-one Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies in the Colony, and the total sum of £5,369 was loaned to the various Societies during the year. All loans were duly repaid when due.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 342, of 172,084 tons; and 345 cleared, of 174,839 tons. Three vessels were registered of 53 tons total. Five vessels locally registered of 144 tons were lost in the hurricane of September, 1921.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to Primary Education during the years 1920 and 1921 :—

	1920.	1921.
Number of Schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st		
December	3,669	4,506
Average attendance	1,912	2,453
Government Grant-in-Aid	£2,069	£2,362
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 1s. 8d.	£0 19s. 3d.

Nine of the twenty-seven regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other eighteen schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as “ Aided Schools,” which were assisted by small Government grants.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a Secondary School for the education of boys, the Grammar School, and one for girls, the Girls High School. The average attendance in 1920 and 1921 was 49 and 62 boys, and 32 and 43 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the Primary Schools.

An Island Scholarship has been established, under Ordinance No. 41 of 1921, to be awarded biennially, and to be tenable for four years at an approved University. The annual value is £250, and the cost of passage is also defrayed.

Provision has been made for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards Scholarships and Exhibitions at the Secondary Schools on lines similar to the Government Exhibitions.

VIII.—HOSPITALS.

The following hospital accommodation is provided: Colonial Hospital, Kingstown, 94 beds (including four beds for private paying patients); District Casualty Hospital, Georgetown, four beds; and District Casualty Hospital, Chateaubelair, six beds.

IX.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years:—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits. £	Amount of with- drawals. £	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st Decr., including interest capitalized. £
1920	921	5,391	4,988	16,530
1921	895	4,064	4,520	16,516

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £442.

The Savings Bank Funds invested at the 31st December, 1921, amounted to £17,944. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values, investments could not be realized with advantage. Interest at 3% is paid on deposits.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank, with headquarters in England, with a paid-up capital of £900,000. There is also a savings bank department attached to the branch.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana. The Harrison and the Canadian Merchant Marine Lines of Steamers also call with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also

sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and the United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the Cash on Delivery System with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and other Countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with sixteen district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor car, by motor boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at St. Vincent, and a subsidy of £300 per annum is paid to the Company, in return for which daily news bulletins are furnished, and the Colony participates in the system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 173 services and 169 miles of line in use.

W. C. HUTCHINSON,

Administrator (Acting).

Government House,
St. Vincent,

27th July, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1093	Cyprus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1094	St. Vincent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1095	Bahamas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1098	Nigeria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1099	New Hebrides	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1100	Somaliland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1101	Straits Settlements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1102	Swaziland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1106	Seychelles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1107	Ashanti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1108	Hongkong	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1109	British Guiana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1110	British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1111	Malta	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1115	Mauritius	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1116	Jamaica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1117	Cyprus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1118	Weihaiwei	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1119	Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920
1120	Gambia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1121	Gambia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1921
1124	Grenada	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1125	Zanzibar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1126	Northern Territory of the Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"
1127	Gibraltar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.			Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	...	...	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	...	...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	...	...	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	...	...	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	...	...	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	...	...	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	...	...	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	...	...	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	...	...	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	...	...	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	...	...	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1129.

ST. HELENA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1084.)



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No. 1129.

ST. HELENA.**ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.****I.—FINANCIAL.****(A) REVENUE.**

The revenue for the year, including a Grant-in-Aid of £3,200, amounted to £10,229, or £2,894 less than the sum received in 1920, being £1,009 under the estimate for the year.

The drop is, however, considerably accounted for in that during 1920 the Government Flax Mill made contributions to the general revenue of £2,100 on account of refund of passage money and other items, whereas in 1921 its contribution was £400.

Customs revenue was down £1,175, owing to bad trade; Post Office receipts by £196.

(B) EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £11,178, or £418 less than the figure for 1920.

The expenditure sanctioned was £12,212. Increases in expenditure amounted to £724, the principal item being £606 under the head "Miscellaneous," due to interest paid to the Crown Agents for the Colonies on overdrafts; the rate of interest being very high in the year under report.

Decreases in expenditure occurred under twelve heads, the principal being £255 under Customs, and £206 under Works Extraordinary.

(C) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On 31st December, 1921, the Colony's liabilities exceeded its assets by £1,950, an increase of indebtedness of £1,528, as compared with 1920, due to the deficit on the year's working.

(D) CURRENCY.

Bills on the Crown Agents amounted to £12,689 during the year. No imports or exports of coin took place in 1921. Coin in circulation may be put at £11,500; this sum includes British Treasury and Bank of England notes to the value of £2,500.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) TRADE.

Revenue.

The Customs revenue for the year under report amounted to £3,249 13s. 7d., as against £4,424 16s. 2d. in the previous year; showing a decrease of £1,175 2s. 7d.

This decrease is due to a general stagnation in trade brought about by lack of employment, due to some extent to post-war conditions, reduction of the Garrison, and withdrawal of deportees; and to the fact that merchants had large stocks in hand at the end of 1920, thereby reducing imports in 1921.

The principal sub-heads under which the decrease in revenue noted above took place, are Import Duties, £412 15s., due to the working classes not having the necessary money to indulge in dutiable luxuries, the selling price of which continued high, and Export Wharfage, £550 3s. 5d., due to only 448 tons of fibre and tow being exported in 1921, as against 838 tons in 1920. Also, in consequence of the London market price in 1921 being under £50 and £25 per ton for fibre and tow respectively, only 10s. and 5s. per ton tax was levied, as against 20s. and 15s. per ton in 1920.

Expenditure.

The Customs Expenditure for 1921 amounted to £390 5s. 4d., as against £644 15s. 7d. in 1920, showing a decrease of £254 10s. 3d. In 1920 a refund of £214 0s. 2d. was made on Export Wharfage Dues overpaid on fibre and tow exported, which did not occur in 1921, and personal emoluments in 1920 were £371 0s. 2d., as against £358 13s. in 1921, hence a saving under both sub-heads.

Imports.

The total value of imports in 1921 amounted to £44,647, as against £67,441 in 1920, showing a decrease of £22,794. This is not only due to less imports, but to the falling cost of materials during the year. Decreases in value appear under almost every item, mainly as follows:—Boats, £805; Coal, £1,543; Drapery, £2,093; Flour, £6,469; Grain, Seed, and Oilcake, £2,981; Foodstuffs, £2,218; Oilman's Stores, £1,203; Sugar, £2,730; and Spirits, £625.

The only large increase is £340 (for Aloe Fibre Mill, and instruments and machinery for the Eastern Telegraph Company); Paraffin Oil, £480; and Rice, £2,672.

During 1920, rice could not be imported for many months.

Exports.

The value of exports during the year amounted to £14,334, as against £41,857 in 1920, showing a large decrease of £27,523, which is practically all due to the value of fibre and tow exported in 1920 being £38,797, as against £11,984 in 1921. No wool was exported in the year under review, as against £574 in the previous year.

Increase under export occurs in St. Helena rope of £685 for 1921, as compared with £391 in 1920, and potatoes £319.

(B) AGRICULTURE, STOCK, FORESTS, AND GARDENS.

The year under review may be regarded as a satisfactory one from an agricultural point of view. The rainfall was sufficient, and well distributed throughout the months when it is most needed for farming operations.

Potatoes and sweet potatoes were plentiful, and prices dropped considerably. This was no doubt of great benefit to the poorer classes, particularly to the people living in Jamestown.

Owing to the abnormal cost, it was impossible to import seed potatoes, as small growers could not have afforded to buy. The lack of markets for their produce acts as a deterrent to the poorer classes taking full advantage of the capabilities of production. More vegetables are, however, grown in cottage gardens than was the case when I came here, and every endeavour is made to induce the people to become more self-supporting. Thanks are due to Messrs. Deason, Solomon, and Thorpe for planting seeds of various trees. In the instances where these seeds have been protected, the results have been most satisfactory; but it is considered that planting, owing to the depredations of animals—principally goats—is useless unless it is done thoroughly, which means much expense. It would be of undoubted benefit to St. Helena to have more plantations of young trees. Fruit is generally unsatisfactory, owing to the depredations of grubs and the general lack of attention to the trees on the part of their owners.

The sale of fruit from Maldivia Garden amounted to £84 14s. 9d., and the expenditure, including £11 6s. 10d. on tree planting, to £83 9s. 6d., showing, with the balance brought forward a small balance in hand at the end of the year of £5 6s. 4d. The Government pasture lands at “Botley’s Lay” produced a revenue of £81 10s. 3d., against an expenditure of £75 5s. 10d. The balance standing to the credit of this fund now amounts to £26 15s. 6d.

The average number of animals maintained on the Lay in 1921 was 277 sheep, 34 oxen, and 10 asses.

(C) INDUSTRIES.

Fibre.—The Government Flax Mill worked for 159 days during the year, as compared with 186 in 1920, producing 76 tons of fibre, and 38½ tons of tow.

The average prices obtained on the London market were £33 a ton for fibre, and £17 a ton for tow, as compared with £54 15s. for fibre, and £36 for tow, in 1920.

The year under review was an extremely difficult one for the flax industry. Not only was there an abrupt fall in value from £54 a ton in November, 1920, to £28 a ton offered for the following shipment, but for many months it was impossible to dispose of fibre at any price, and shipments were not advised by the agents. I am glad to say that, after considerable correspondence with the Union-Castle Shipping Company, freights were somewhat reduced during the later months of the year, and had this not been done the flax industry as regards St. Helena would have become a dead letter.

Private Mills.—Messrs. Solomon's mill at Sandy Bay ran for 293 working days, and produced 110 tons of fibre and 38 tons of tow. Their mill at Broadbottom worked for 96 days, and produced 21 tons of fibre and 22 tons of tow. This mill was closed early in the year.

Messrs. Deason's mill at Hutts Gate ran for 308 days during the year, and produced 93 tons of fibre and 78 tons of tow.

Messrs. Solomon employed 90 males and six females at their two mills, some for only part of the year, while Messrs. Deason employed 50 males and 23 females at their mill, a total of 169 persons employed directly in the industry in the private mills in 1921, as compared with 212 in 1920. The Government mill had 25 employees in both years.

Rope.—Captain Mainwaring employed 20 men and boys in rope making in 1921, and produced 12 tons of rope, of an approximate value of £700. It is much to be hoped that this infant industry may have a successful career before it.

Lace.—The lace industry is now managed by private enterprise, and I hear quite satisfactory accounts of its progress.

(D) SHIPPING.

The number of vessels calling at this island during the year under review was 26, being 11 less than in the previous year. All of these were British, with the exception of one French and one Swedish. H.M.S. "Dublin" visited the Colony in September.

The total number of vessels sighted at the station was 42, being 12 less than in 1920, of which number two traded with licensed traders.

Nineteen vessels entered and cleared at the Port of Jamestown, shipping and discharging 7,544 tons, as compared with 7,426 in 1920. This, however, includes 4,433 tons of coal from vessels in distress, as compared with 2,273 tons in 1920.

The mail service was continued by the Union-Castle Company.

III.—EDUCATION.

There are eight elementary schools in the Island, of which three are Government schools.

During the year a general census was made, which showed the numbers attending to be—

Government schools	...	...	...	...	236
Other schools	...	...	...	...	376

612

as compared with 564 in 1920. The average attendance at all the schools was exceptionally high, and the health of the children good throughout the year.

The Superintendent visited the schools regularly, examining the children at the end of each quarter, and also more fully at the end of the year. He was satisfied with the progress made, and also with the general conduct and tone of the schools.

Eight pupil-teachers attended the weekly classes, of whom two obtained first-class, and four second-class certificates in the examination at the end of the year. The important change in the schools was the separation of the boys and girls in the two town schools. As this did not take place till late in the year, it is early yet to report results. Much, however, is expected in the way of improved discipline, attendance, and moral benefit, and so far these expectations have been entirely fulfilled.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) HOSPITAL.

There were 197 admissions to the hospital during the year, a decrease of four as compared with 1920.

There were five deaths, representing a mortality of 2·5 per cent. of the total admissions, as compared with six, or 3 per cent., in 1920, and 2·8 in 1919.

(B) SAVINGS BANK.

On the 31st December, 1921, there were 107 depositors having accounts with the Government Savings Bank, as against 141 in 1920.

Cash deposits amounted to £602 13s. 3d., as compared with £1,273 12s. 1d. in 1920. This decrease is accounted for by the public placing their money in the National Bank of South Africa, where they obtained a higher rate of interest. It is surprising in a way that, in view of this, there should have been any deposits during the year in the Government Savings Bank. It may be explained by the idea that many have here that banks may come and go, but the Government is stabilised. Repayment to depositors amounted to £5,448 12s. 5d., as against £7,302 1s. 8d. in 1920.

On 31st December, 1921, the sum of £6,578 4s. 8d. was standing to the credit of depositors in the Government Savings Bank.

Stock to the value of £12,082 0s. 10d., cost price, was invested on the 31st December, 1921.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) CRIMINAL.

Supreme Court.—No cases were brought before the Supreme Court during the year, as compared with one in 1920, and four in 1919.

Police Court.—Seventy cases were dealt with in the Police Court, as compared with 110 in the previous year; 29 of these were for non-payment of road tax.

Dog Tax.—£82 10s. was collected under Dog Tax, as compared with £80 10s. in 1920. There were no prosecutions under this head.

(B) PRISONS.

Thirty persons were committed to the gaol during the year, as compared with 33 in 1920. The daily average number in gaol was 1·4, as compared with 4·8 in the previous year.

The cost of maintaining the gaol was £126 16s. 5d., as compared with £240 15s. 3d. in the previous year, duly carrying out the forecast I ventured to make in the last annual report.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) POPULATION.

The estimated civil population on the 31st December, 1921, amounted to 3,670, being a decrease of six on the actual population, 3,676, on 31st December, 1920, which was ascertainable by the Census.

Civil emigrants in 1921 numbered 144 (including labourers to Ascension), and immigrants 67, as against 83 emigrants and 101 immigrants in 1920.

The number of deaths during the year was 24, and civil births 93. There were also two births in the Garrison. Twenty-three illegitimate births took place in 1921.

The death-rate in 1921 was 6·5 per 1,000, as compared with 8·87 in 1920; I think I can venture to say the lowest recorded death-rate in the Island, or probably in any other Colony.

The civil birth-rate for 1921 was 25·3 per 1,000, as against 22·6 in 1920.

There were 20 marriages solemnized during 1921, as compared with 17 in 1920.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the community continued to be satisfactory.

The infant (*i.e.* under one year) mortality constituted a record, viz., 10·4 per thousand births; only one infant died in 1921 as compared with seven in 1920, or a rate of 82·3 per thousand births in that year. Legislation came into force this year forbidding the insurance of children under five years old.

A mild form of influenza prevailed in the month of September; large numbers were affected but no deaths occurred. Two cases of diphtheria occurred during the year in different parts of the Island, but no connection could be traced between them.

(C) SANITARY.

The Board of Health met eight times during the year. No matter calling for special remark came to notice.

(D) CLIMATE.*Meteorological Station, Hutts Gate.*

Barometer.—The mean pressure for the year was 28·123, slightly higher than the mean pressure for the previous year, which was 28·108.

Temperature.—The mean temperature was 62·9 (63·0 in 1920). The absolute maximum was recorded on 26th February, and read 83·6, which is the highest since the present observer has been in charge of the station (24 years), the highest temperature in 1920 being 82·5 on 9th March. The absolute minimum temperature was 51·6, registered on 8th September, as against 51·0 recorded on 14th July and 5th August in the previous year.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall measured at Hutts Gate was 40·50 in., at Plantation 46·17, and in Jamestown 15·05. The maximum fall, 1·72 in., was recorded on 28th March, 1920. June and July were particularly wet months, and the last four months of the year were very dry. The number of rainy days totalled 162 at Hutts Gate and 205 at Plantation.

Wind.—The mean force for the year was 2·0, the same as in 1920; there were, however, two more calm days in 1921.

The direction for the year was as follows:—

E.	...	...	...	2 days.
E.S.E.	...	...	...	6 "
S.E.	...	...	...	166 "
S.	...	...	...	36 "
S.S.E.	...	...	...	125 "
Calm	...	...	...	30 "

From the above report it may be noted that the weather in St. Helena is apparently getting more and more equable. There is

a tendency to record more calm days annually—a few years ago about eight was usual, this year the number is thirty. There are many days which could be classified as calm, but a calm day, meteorologically speaking, is when the wind is really west, but is so slight as not to be recorded by the anemometer; on these days rain is not unusual.

VII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

(A) POST OFFICE.

Revenue.—The Postal Revenue for the year amounted to £741 15s. 2d. as compared with £917 7s. 2d. in the previous year, showing a decrease of £175 12s. 0d. due principally to small orders from stamp dealers, viz., £326 18s. 5d., as compared with £417 16s. 10d. in 1920.

Expenditure.—The expenditure of the Department amounted to £417 18s. 7d., a decrease of £84 14s. 10d. as compared with 1920. This decrease is due principally to the claim from the General Post Office for sea carriage of mails not being presented for payment.

(B) TELEGRAPHS.

The charges on telegrams remained the same as in the previous year, and the Staff of the Eastern Telegraph Company was as in 1920.

(C) TELEPHONES.

Receipts for 1921 were £97 13s. 11d. and expenditure £93 10s. 7d., as compared with £103 19s. 3d. and £81 17s. 0d. in 1920.

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) ROADS.

The amount spent on the repair and maintenance of rural roads came to £940 10s. 11d., out of which the tax on fibre and tow contributed £190 12s. 7d.

The sum available for the repair of the roads, of which we endeavour to keep in order some 60 miles, is quite inadequate. The hilly nature of the country, together with a heavy rainfall and wear caused by flax donkeys, makes constant repair necessary. On the present sum patching is practically all that can be done, regular repairs, which are much needed, being out of the question. A thoroughly good road foreman is also a necessity which has to be dispensed with.

The amount collected under the Road Tax Ordinance was £68 5s. 0d., as compared with £84 7s. 0d. in 1920. The decrease is due to men going to Ascension for employment. There were 29 prosecutions under this Ordinance.

(B) LAND GRANTS.

1,254 acres of Crown Waste Land at "Prosperous Bay Plain" were leased to Mr. T. R. Sales for the purpose of cotton growing. The general value of land remains unaltered.

(C) RATE OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The following comparative table shows that the cost of living dropped considerably during 1921. On 64 articles of common household consumption the net decrease during the year may be put at 41·54 per cent., that is to say that, while in 1920 the figure was 176·08 per cent. over that of the pre-war period, in 1921 it was 134·54 per cent. over. Fish was plentiful during 1921.

		1920.		1921.
Flour	... ..	4½d. per lb.	...	4½d.
Bread	... ..	7½d. per 1½ lb.	...	5½d.
Sugar	... ..	1/3 per lb.	...	10d.
Dripping	... ..	2/- „ „	...	1/2
Tea	... ..	3/2 „ „	...	2/-
Salt	... ..	2d. „ „	...	2d.
Rice	... ..	5d. to 5½d. „ „	...	4d.

The cost of clothing also remained abnormally high.

Rate of Wages.—The same as in 1920, namely, 2s. to 2s. 6d. daily.

Much unemployment is chronic on the Island. With a death-rate of 6·5 per 1,000, and a birth-rate of 25 per 1,000, it is obvious that this must be so until some stable outside source of occupation or some new Island industry be found. It is none the less distressing.

The Red Gate Food Depot continued its good work in relieving the distress of very old people by providing a weekly ration to 67 persons on Fridays. I am glad to say that this very deserving and necessary charity has been generally well supported.

During the course of 1921, I also restarted the Soup Kitchen in Jamestown, which has been of very great benefit, principally to underfed or semi-starved school children. A daily meal is provided for these at 3 p.m.

My most sincere thanks are due to subscribers to both these institutions.

(D) DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS.

The expenditure during the year under "Works Recurrent" amounted to £2,444 1s. 11d., of which £940 10s. 11d. was spent on rural roads. This is less by £500 than the expenditure for 1920, but the saving, both from the point of view of repairs and employment, is really not satisfactory.

Poor Board.

The Revenue of the Poor Board for the year amounted to £964 10s. 0d., and the expenditure to £969 14s. 6d., as compared with £824 6s. 8d. and £837 18s. 7d. in 1920.

Public Market.

The Revenue amounted to £21 11s. 5d., and the expenditure to £15 3s. 5d. The Market continued under the supervision of the Board of Guardians.

(E) MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. F. de C. Keogh was appointed Assistant Colonial Surgeon, and arrived in the Colony in November.

From an economic standpoint the cost of living showed a considerable reduction from that prevalent in 1920. On the other hand, owing to a very heavy fall in the price of fibre, wages showed a tendency to drop, while unemployment increased. Under these circumstances the opportunity to send 45 men to Ascension for work under the Admiralty in September was particularly welcome.

From an agricultural point of view seasons were good, and crops all round satisfactory.

The Boy Scout movement was revived, and the different troops now number about 60 members; Girl Guides were also inaugurated. Both these bodies are now provided with uniforms, and it is hoped that the training they get will be of advantage to them in later life.

R. F. PFEIL,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

THE CASTLE,
ST. HELENA,
26th June, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1093	Cyprus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1094	St. Vincent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1095	Bahama	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1098	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1099	New Hebrides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1100	Somaliland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1101	Straits Settlements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1102	Swaziland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1106	Seychelles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1107	Ashanti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1108	Hongkong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1109	British Guiana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1110	British Honduras	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1111	Malta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1115	Mauritius	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1116	Jamaica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1117	Cyprus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1118	Weihaiwei	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1119	Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1120	Gambia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1121	Gambia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1123	British Guiana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1124	Grenada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1125	Zanzibar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1127	Gibraltar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	..	..	..	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1130.

F I J I.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1080.)



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No. 1130.

FIJI.**ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.****Geographical.*

The Colony of Fiji is situated in the Southern Pacific Ocean and lies between latitude 15° and 22° south, and between longitude 177° west, and 175° east.

The Fijian Group is comprised of about 250 islands of varying sizes from the island of Vitilevu, which covers 4,053 square miles, to mere rocks measuring a few yards in circumference. About forty islands are inhabited. Other large islands besides Vitilevu are Vanualevu (2,128 square miles), Taveuni (166 square miles), and Kadavu (165 square miles). The total area of the Colony (including the island of Rotuma) is 7,083 square miles, or nearly the size of Wales. Suva, the capital, is situated on the island of Vitilevu and is distant 1,743 miles from Sydney, New South Wales, and 1,140 miles from Auckland, New Zealand.

The island of Rotuma lies between 12 and 15° south and 175 and 180° east, and is a dependency of Fiji.

The Colony is comprised of dry and wet zones, each distinctly marked by the nature and density of its vegetation. In many places throughout the larger islands the change from the forest lands of the wet belt to the reeded country of the dry is so abrupt as to cause a dividing line that is visible for many miles. The class of scenery to be found in each zone is remarkable generally for its beauty. In the dry areas reeded slopes rising from the sea to the top of undulating hills which fringe upon its shores indicate a fertility of soil presenting great possibilities. These reed-covered lands provide for the natives a constant and an almost inexhaustible source of wild indigenous root foods including many of high nutritive value. From the hill-tops of these fringing ridges a pleasant view unfolds itself. Rich valleys, intersected by winding streams, are either uncultivated or are interspersed with cultivated clearings, but in either case brilliantly verdant; the graceful fern tree, the feathery bamboo, and the prolific luxuriance of the undergrowth combine to present a more than passingly pleasant view. In the rugged highlands of the wet area, where the rainfall varies from 100 to 150 inches a year and where forest-clad mountains rise

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 848. (Cd. 7622-39.)

boldly to a height of between 4,000 and 5,000 feet, grow many trees of value unnoticed and unprized. Here also are the evidences of a bountiful Nature. The forests of Fiji, although as yet but lightly explored, yield useful timber, both hard and soft, in considerable quantity, and it is more than possible that a scientific survey of the mountain ranges would reveal the existence of much that is of considerable commercial value. Throughout these mountain areas, traversed as they are by native paths, the scenery is notable for its splendour. Innumerable mountain streams of clear rushing water make their way through cleft and gorge, finally to meet one or other of the great rivers where they join in the rush to the sea.

The islands of Fiji are girt by coral-reefs over the seaward edge of which the Pacific breakers curl and waves pitch with a ceaseless and a heavy fall. Inside the barrier the calm waters of the lagoon lie in strange contrast to the rolling seas outside. They provide an intricate though a safe seaway under the waters of which in many places spread beautiful subaqueous gardens, a delight to the traveller, and a haven for the myriads of multi-coloured fish which inhabit them. Passing through these protected shores a variety of landscape unfolds itself, the luxuriant and cheerful beauty of the lowlands gives place to the gloomy grandeur and the unbroken solitude of the mountains; mangrove borders alternate with stretches of beach with succeeding narrow vales beyond. The whole forms an interesting and a pleasing prospect.

Historical.

The existence of the Fiji Islands was first made known by Tasman, who sailed through the Northern Islands of the Group in 1643. Captain Cook visited the Islands in 1769. At the beginning of the nineteenth century visits from sailing vessels trading in sandal-wood—at that time abundant in Fiji—became frequent. The native, however, had acquired, perhaps justly, an unenviable reputation for savagery and cruelty, and European settlers were few until the middle of the century.

In 1835 Missionary Societies gained a footing in the Islands, and by the year 1860 a few of the hill tribes only remained unconverted to Christianity.

Prior to the advent of Europeans, Fiji was divided into several large independent kingdoms, between which internecine strife was continuous; but, with the assistance of the early settlers, Cakobau, the Chief of the Kingdom of Bau, was able to reduce his immediate rivals to quietude, if not submission, and, later to proclaim himself King of Fiji.

The high price of cotton, following on the American Civil War, led to a large influx of European settlers for the purpose of growing cotton, and, in 1870, it is estimated there were 3,000 to 4,000 Europeans settled throughout the Group.

A Constitution on European lines was drawn up in 1871 under the Native Monarchy and a Parliament was elected. The Constitution, however, speedily proved unworkable under the existing conditions, and the Ministers endeavoured to carry on the Government without the Parliament. The internal dissensions between the Europeans which were fast bringing about a state of anarchy and disorder, and the presence of Maafu, a Tongan Chief who had acquired mastery over the Lau Islands and threatened, with the assistance of certain Fijian allies, to overcome the remainder of the group, led to a renewal of the demand for the annexation of the group by Great Britain which had been refused ten years earlier.

In 1873, in response to the agitation for annexation, the Earl of Kimberley commissioned Commander Goodenough and Mr. E. L. Layard, Her Majesty's Consul in Fiji, to investigate and report on the proposal. These Commissioners, on the 21st March, 1874, reported an offer of the cession of the Group, and in September, Sir Hercules Robinson, the Governor of New South Wales, arrived in Fiji to arrange the terms of the cession.

On the 10th day of October, 1874, the sovereignty of the Islands was ceded to Her Majesty Queen Victoria by King Cakobau, and all the leading Fijian Chiefs, including Maafu, the Chief of Lau. A Charter was shortly afterwards issued by Her Majesty, and Fiji was created a Crown Colony. From 1874 the Colony has remained uninterruptedly under British control.

Constitution.

The Constitution is regulated by Letters Patent of the 31st of January, 1914, as amended by Letters Patent of the 20th of July, 1916.

The Executive Council in 1921 consisted of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, and the Attorney-General as ex-officio members and two nominated unofficial members. The Legislative Council consisted of the Governor and eleven nominated official members, seven elected members, two Fijian members nominated from those persons elected by the Council of Chiefs, and an Indian member nominated by the Governor.

The English Common Law and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England in the year 1875, when the Colony obtained a local legislature, extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable, and subject to modifications by Colonial Ordinances.

Local Administration

Under the Municipal Institutions Ordinance of 1909, the administration of the towns of Suva and Levuka is in the hands of Municipal Councils elected by the ratepayers. The Municipal

Councils have jurisdiction over sanitation and public health, markets, slaughter-houses, traffic regulations, building construction and the control of places and streets within the towns. Their revenues are mainly derived from Government grants, licences and rates.

The Central Board of Health, which is composed of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor, administers the Public Health Ordinance of 1911, and is empowered to make regulations in regard to the carrying out of the Ordinance. The Colony is divided into urban and rural sanitary districts in which local authorities, subject to the control of the Central Board of Health, administer the Public Health Ordinance in their respective districts.

The Board of Education appointed by the Governor directs the policy in regard to education, and is authorised to pass bye-laws on all matters pertaining to education within the Colony.

The Central Road Board, composed of official and unofficial members, is responsible for the maintenance of existing roads and for new construction, and is assisted by local Road Boards appointed in each district.

General Observations.

During 1921 the Government was administered by Sir Cecil Rodwell, K.C.M.G., until his departure to England on leave on the 24th May, when I assumed the administration as Acting Governor. Mr. Islay McOwan, British Consular Agent at Tonga, acted as Colonial Secretary during the absence of the Governor from the Colony.

In February the Indians employed in the sugar industry at Ba ceased work without notice. The strike rapidly spread to adjoining sugar districts, and before the end of the month the western and northern sugar districts of the Island of Vitilevu from Ra to Sigatoka were affected. No demands were put forward by the strikers until the strike had extended for several weeks, and when eventually presented were of so extravagant a nature as to afford no reasonable basis of discussion with employers. There can be little doubt, however, that the fundamental causes of the strike were economic in character, consequent upon the continued increased cost of living. At the same time political agitation (in sympathy with the National Movement in India) was largely instrumental in fanning the discontent thus caused into action. The strikers refused the opportunity presented to them by the appointment of a Commission, with the Chief Justice of Tonga as Chairman, of stating their case, and the sugar industry remained at a standstill for several months. In July, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, the largest employer of labour in the Colony, undertook to pay weekly a deferred bonus, hitherto paid bi-monthly, and to supply for a limited period necessary foodstuffs and clothing at cost price. A general return to work gradually followed. In May the Indians employed in the sugar industry at Labasa on the Island

of Vanualevu ceased work in sympathy with the strikers on the north side of Vitilevu, but the movement met with little success, and in less than two months work was resumed. A gratifying feature of the strike was the law-abiding behaviour of all parties concerned and the absence of racial feeling. Although precautionary measures were taken by the enrolment of special constables, their services were not required, no breach of the peace having been committed during the strike.

On the 21st March, Government House was struck by lightning and reduced to ashes within two hours. His Excellency the Governor was unfortunate in losing nearly all his private property in the fire. The building, fortunately, was partially insured. The sympathy of the Fijians took a practical form characteristic of the courtesy and chiefly traditions of the race. The leading chiefs asked permission to erect a large hall in native style for the convenience of the Governor. The stately "bure" which resulted will form an annexure to the new Government House and will stand for many years to come as a token of the loyalty and sympathy of the Fijian race.

A Commission was appointed by the Acting Governor in August to inquire into the cost of living as compared with the previous year. The report of the Commission, which was laid on the table of the Legislative Council, showed that the increases and decreases so nearly balanced each other that the difference was negligible.

The early part of the year was marked by a movement amongst the Indian community for repatriation to India. To meet this demand the Government chartered two vessels, the "Ganges" and the "Chenab," to carry repatriates. In all, 2,958 persons were repatriated during the year. The return of 500 repatriates in April, and later of 800 more, who, finding conditions unsuitable in India, returned to Fiji, and the circulation of rumours as to the treatment received by these persons in India and the difficulty of obtaining remunerative employment, led to a considerable withdrawal of applicants for repatriation.

On the 27th of June an official announcement was made simultaneously in Fiji and in India that a Committee from India had been appointed by the Government of India to visit Fiji in January, 1922, under the following terms of reference:—

- (1) To inquire into the conditions of Indians now resident in Fiji and to ascertain causes of discontent.
- (2) To advise whether or not, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, Fiji offers a suitable field for Indian colonization.

The visit to Fiji of a Deputation appointed by the Government of India to study conditions of Indians in Fiji, more particularly in regard to renewed immigration of Indians into Fiji, had been the subject of negotiations between the respective Governments since the early months of the previous year, and the decision of the 27th of June was welcomed in the Colony.

During the year a subsidized direct steamship service was established between Fiji and the United Kingdom, and a contract for twelve months, terminable on six months' notice, was entered into with the Australian Commonwealth line of steamers. The main feature of the contract was the fixing of freight rates from Fiji at a similar figure to the charge from Sydney to London. In the past European cargo had been largely transported via Sydney, involving transshipment and additional freight from Sydney to Fiji. Similarly, copra, which had in recent years largely been diverted to the United States of America, was shipped in considerable quantities direct to the United Kingdom. The inauguration of this service marks a forward step in the history of Fiji.

A series of aeroplane tests were successfully conducted in the Colony during the month of July. The tests included flights round Vitilevu and Vanualevu and conclusively demonstrated that the carriage of mails and passengers by air is practicable in this Colony. The condition of the Colony's finances will, however, preclude the possibility of inaugurating a flying service in the immediate future.

Another important step taken during 1921 was the trial survey of a transinsular route across the Island of Vitilevu, the largest island in the Group. The survey showed that no insuperable engineering difficulties existed to the building of a road from Suva to Lautoka with a maximum gradient of one in twenty throughout. The construction of this road, when the financial position allows the work to be undertaken, will open up for settlement much fertile country lying in the interior, and will, in addition, render scenery of exceptional beauty accessible to tourists. The length of the projected roads from Suva to Tavua is estimated at 110 miles, and the cost at some £350,000.

The proposal to erect a Memorial Hospital in Suva, and to establish Cottage Hospitals in outlying centres, in memory of those from Fiji who gave their lives in the Great War, received the enthusiastic support of the public, and the £20,000 which the public were invited to subscribe was readily forthcoming. The levelling of the site at Suva is being proceeded with. The hospital, which is estimated to cost £40,000, will be erected in ferro concrete and will provide accommodation for 102 patients.

On April 24th the Census was taken. The preliminary returns show that the total population on that date was 157,266 persons made up as follows:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Europeans	2,297 ..	1,581 ..	3,878
Half-castes	1,454 ..	1,327 ..	2,781
Fijians	44,022 ..	40,453 ..	84,475
Indians	37,015 ..	23,619 ..	60,634
Chinese	845 ..	65 ..	910
Others	2,831 ..	1,757 ..	4,588

The most gratifying features of the report are the figures showing that the decline of the Fijian race has been arrested, and that the disparity in the numbers of the sexes of the Indian community is rapidly disappearing.

The partial success under adverse circumstances attending the importation and hatching of a small quantity of rainbow trout ova during 1920 led to the experiment being repeated on a larger scale during 1921, and 50,000 ova were imported from New Zealand with the kind assistance of the New Zealand Government. The venture proved a great success, and some 40,000 small trout have been liberated into the Sigatoka River, whence it is hoped in due course to stock the other mountain streams in the Group. The natural-food supply in these rivers is reported to be ample. The present financial position of the Colony has prevented further importations of ova for the time being, but the success attending this year's undertaking has shown the possibility of successfully introducing trout into the mountain streams of the Colony at an altitude above 2,000 feet where the water temperature does not exceed 70° F.

The year 1921 has witnessed in Fiji, in common with other tropical countries throughout the world, the decline from high prices to prices at which a profit is not possible to producers of certain tropical products. Cost of production which, under war-time conditions had reached a high level, did not correspondingly decrease. Wages of labourers were not reduced owing to the high cost of living, and the cost of agricultural material, fertilizers, and articles necessary for the efficient maintenance of plantations and of industrial concerns remained at an inordinately high figure.

For the first time for many years the assets of the Colony were exceeded by the liabilities. This condition of affairs was due partly to the drop in the value of tropical products, and partly to the great expenditure to which the Government was committed in the repatriation of Indians under the conditions of their original agreements. The expenditure under this heading alone in 1921 amounted to £85,119.

Native Administration.

The system of administration dealing with the native Fijian inhabitants of the Colony remains practically unchanged. A slight change was, however, effected in the Headquarters Administration, a redistribution of the duties hitherto devolving upon the Secretary for Native Affairs rendering it possible to abolish that office, and to provide more direct control by the Colonial Secretary. Native chiefs with administrative functions have been, in many provinces, replaced by European Commissioners, who in some cases are assisted by a capable native Chief as a subordinate. No new additions were made during the year to the code of Native Laws which confirms such Native customs as have been found to be desirable and suitable to the social condition of the people. The Fijians show no sign of physical deterioration. They are to-day, as at the time of cession, one of the finest races in the Pacific. The Census taken on the 29th April, 1921, showed a decrease of 2,621 or 3·01 per cent, the smallest recorded decrease in any censal period. But for the abnormal death-rate in 1918, due to the

epidemic of influenza, for the first time since 1874 the 1921 Census would have shown an increase in the Native Fijian population. Notwithstanding the large number of East Indian immigrants now in the Colony instances of miscegenation are extremely rare.

During the year 3,642 Fijians were employed in wage-earning occupations, as against 2,427 ten years ago. The increase is due, to some extent, to the higher rates of wages now prevailing, and there is also evidence of a desire to work in order to accumulate the means of satisfying those individual wants which have gradually arisen with the development of the race.

The Fijians have made good progress in education during the last ten years as will be seen from the following figures taken from the 1911 and 1921 Census:—

Proportion per cent. of each sex of 15 years and upwards returned as able to read and write.

1911 Census.				1921 Census.			
Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.		
55·87	..	51·57	..	76·96	..	72·49	

The basis of the educational system is the village schools which are conducted by the various Christian Missions. It is now compulsory to have these schools registered, and efforts are being made to improve the methods of teaching and to raise the standard of education.

As no hurricane of any severity affected the Colony during the year, the native food and coconut plantations have yielded heavy crops, and in no part of the Group has there been a scarcity, or any hardship experienced by the natives as a consequence of the world-wide depression in economic conditions.

The Native Lands Commission, although still hampered by a shortage in staff, made good progress during the year. Registration of all documents, including plans, Registers of Native Lands and Native Landowners, has now been completed in respect of the provinces of Nadroga, Colo West, Nadi, Lautoka and Ba. These provinces cover an area of over 1,500 square miles of territory. Investigations have been conducted in the northern districts of Naitasiri, in the districts of Nadogo, Labasa, Wailevu and Mali in Vanualevu and in the province of Ra. Survey operations have been started in the latter province, which comprises 18 districts, with an aggregate area of close on 400 square miles. The work of surveying Tailevu (south) is still proceeding. It has been found that the work of the Commission has been greatly facilitated by sending out advance parties of specially trained native Fijian clerks to make preliminary investigation, classify native tribes, and prepare claims for presentation at the official sittings of the Commission. Some of these men have shown conspicuous ability in this arduous and difficult work. During the year the Commission published Council Paper No. 6, being a report of the work of the Commission in Tailevu (south).

Sport.

Sport on land is generally poor throughout the Colony. There is some pigeon shooting, but, owing to the density of the jungle, this sport is mainly confined to natives. Wild duck, which once existed in large numbers, have been greatly reduced by the mon-goose imported to reduce the rats in the sugar cane. The waters of the Colony, however, provide excellent fishing, and there are six or seven varieties of fish, rising up to 100 lbs. and over in weight, which may be caught by trolling with rod and line, and afford good sport. It is hoped also that in a few years the inland rivers may afford fly fishing as the result of the importation of trout ova to which previous reference has been made.

Vital Statistics.

The death-rate during the year 1921 for Europeans was 29, being 0·51 per cent. of the population; Fijians, 2,343, being 2·62 per cent. of the population; Indians 473, being 0·78 per cent. of the population. The births registered in 1921 numbered 5,389. The birth-rate works out at 8·99 per cent. of the population. 830 marriages were registered, the rate being 1·38 per cent. of the population.

Public Health.

The climate of Fiji is exceptionally healthy. Malarial fever, the curse of so many tropical countries, is entirely absent, and the anopheles mosquito is not found in any island of the Group. Europeans live to advanced ages and children thrive. Many Europeans, with their families, have resided in Fiji for prolonged periods without apparent damage to their vitality or constitution.

The most prevalent diseases of a serious nature are dysentery and typhoid fever. Infection is generally fly-borne rather than water-borne. The drier climate of the north and west sides of Vitilevu was formerly badly infested with flies when both these diseases were prevalent, as was also ophthalmia in that locality. Within the last ten years flies have almost disappeared, and these diseases have now become rare. A similar improvement has occurred in Suva, on the wet side of the island, as a result of an efficient sewerage system; but in the rest of the most rainy zone cases of dysentery and enteric fevers are, unfortunately, not infrequent. Search has been made for a fly parasite. Large numbers of fly pupæ in manure are devoured by ants. A small wasp has recently been found by Dr. Carment, Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. H. Simmons, Government Entomologist, as a common parasite of fly pupæ. It is hoped that this parasite may reduce fly infestation, but whether it has been the chief cause of the disappearance of flies on the dry side is not yet determined. A renewed effort is being made by the Government and the Rockefeller Foundation to reduce the high rate of infection amongst the Fijian and Indian population with ankylostomiasis. Sanitary measures are insisted on, and carbon-tetrachloride, a new anthelmintic (non-toxic, efficient, and cheap) is being

administered to the people. The results up to now are promising, but several years' work will be necessary to stamp out the disease, so common in all tropical colonies.

Education, through native medical practitioners and other means, is removing from the native mind the belief in the desirability of infection of children with yaws. The Salvarsan group of drugs is much sought after, and, if funds allow, it is now practicable to consider the eradication of a disease almost as deadly in its after-effects as syphilis is elsewhere.

The method of intravenous injection of Chaulmoogra oil for leprosy is being steadily improved by Dr. Harper, Medical Superintendent of the Makogai Leper Asylum. As far as the evidence yet goes permanent cure may result in favourable cases from its use.

Imports and Exports.

The amount collected for import duties during the financial year 1921 was £194,842 as against £215,621 in 1920, and the Customs duties on exports amounted to £87,972 for 1921 as against £77,225 for the year 1920. The decrease in the amount of duty on imports is accounted for by the experiment which was tried of admitting free of duty foodstuffs of everyday use with a view to reducing the high cost of living. The exemption of these articles from duty did not, however, benefit the consumer in the manner anticipated, and the duties have now been reimposed. In November the Legislative Council, by Ordinance No. 32 of 1921, adopted the principle of a Preferential Tax on goods the product or manufacture of the British Empire. The preferential tariff on British goods amounts to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

II. FINANCE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £569,722, or £80,969 in excess of the revenue for 1920. Two new sources of revenue, the Income Tax and the Business Profits Tax, together realized £142,073, while the Building and Hut Tax, previously yielding £16,000 annually, was discontinued. Repayment by the Imperial Government of interest on War Loan amounting to £25,800 ceased in 1920, and interest on general investments was reduced from £5,727 in 1920 to £1,050 in 1921, on account of the investments being sold early in the year. The expenditure amounted to £752,038 or £182,316 more than the revenue received. The main causes for this large excess were repatriation of immigrants to India, £85,120; loss on realization of Government investments, £29,259; writing down the value of Public Works Department stores, £23,225. As compared with the previous year, the total revenue and expenditure were as follows:—

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Revenue.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>
1920	.. ..	488,753	.. ..	611,944
1921	.. ..	569,722	.. ..	752,038

A loan of £36,000 to provide advances to returned sailors and soldiers for specific purposes was floated in October, but up to the 31st December only £5,300 had been subscribed. A loan of £150,000 was raised in 1920 for the purpose of carrying out certain public works, and the Colony received from the Imperial Government an advance of £200,000 against a loan to be raised to meet part of the cost of the Suva Harbour works and drainage works. Of this latter sum the Suva Municipal Council is liable for £39,788 3s. 2d. On the 31st December last the Crown Agents had also advanced £114,000 to meet current expenditure. The Government Currency Notes in circulation at the close of the year amounted to £419,827 as compared with £372,868 at the end of the year 1920. As against the Government note issue the Commissioners of Currency held on the 31st December, 1921, £85,327 in gold and stock to the nominal value of £395,315.

III. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The principal items of export continue to be sugar, copra, and bananas, the quantities and values of these products exported during each of the last two years being as follows:—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Green Fruit. Value. £
	Quantity. Tons.	Value. £	Quantity. Tons.	Value. £	
1920	72,985 ..	2,092,990	14,666 ..	508,830	95,315
1921	72,624 ..	2,053,403	14,531 ..	282,769	73,600

The number of bunches of bananas exported, the values of which are shown in the foregoing statement, was as follows:—

Year.	Bunches.
1920	759,830
1921	581,485

Other principal domestic exports were as follows:—

	1920.		1921.	
	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £
Maize	42,732 bush.	11,499	61½ bush.	22
Beche de mer ..	2,329 cwt.	17,545	554 cwt.	3,578
Trocas shell ..	360 tons	28,244	101 tons	2,748
Rubber	1,319 cwt.	16,939	591 cwt.	4,053
Molasses	12,699 tons	12,713	13,374 tons	13,375

The total imports and exports for each of the past two years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
1920	£ 1,673,121	£ 2,896,448	£ 4,569,569
1921	1,509,732	2,541,458	4,051,190

Seventy-eight per cent. of the total trade of the Colony during 1921 was with British Possessions, chiefly Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Only 8·6 per cent. of the total trade was with foreign countries, chiefly the United States of America. The total trade of the Colony with the United Kingdom increased from 5·78 per cent. in 1920 to 13·19 per cent. in 1921; that with British Possessions increased from 77·19 per cent. in 1920 to 78 per cent. in 1921, and that with foreign countries fell from 16·68 per cent. in 1920 to 8·60 per cent. in 1921. The falling-off of trade with foreign countries is accounted for by the fact that more than half of the copra exported from the Colony went to the United Kingdom.

Agriculture.

Sugar.—The quantity of sugar exported during 1921 was 378 tons less than exported during the previous year. There was, however, a considerable decrease in the value of the total export owing to the fall in price. The future prospects of this industry are uncertain, being dependent upon labour conditions, which still continue to be unsettled.

Bananas.—There was a reduction in the export of bananas during the year, the number of bunches exported being 178,545 less than in the previous year, and the decrease in value amounted to £21,712. The banana industry has been somewhat depressed throughout the year, owing to the action of the Commonwealth Government in imposing a prohibitive duty of 8s. 4d. per cental upon bananas, which has effectively closed the Australian market to the bananas of this Colony. There is, however, an important movement on foot with the object of placing Fiji bananas on the Canadian market. A trial shipment made under most unfavourable conditions, though unsuccessful, encourages the hope that, under suitable conditions, a satisfactory trade can be established in tropical fruits with Canada, and that the opening up of a remunerative market in this direction may more than compensate for the loss of the Australian market.

Coconut Industry.—Conditions appear to be fairly flourishing, but the low prices ruling for copra and the high cost of labour have militated against the extension of planted areas. The crop prospects in regard to coconuts for 1922 are good, and, given increased prices and the absence of hurricanes, the production of copra will be considerably increased.

Rice.—The policy of the Government in encouraging the local production of rice has met with success, and production has increased to such an extent that it has been necessary to import and erect new rice milling machinery in the mill which the Government has established at Suva. The production of rice locally has correspondingly reduced the amount imported, and it is hoped that, as times goes on, it will be possible to develop an export trade in this commodity with Australian and New Zealand markets.

Trocas Shell.—The market for this class of shell, of which considerable quantities are to be found on the reefs throughout the Group, was very low during the year, and consequently there has been very little exported. The principal market for the trocas shell is in Japan, where the shell is made into buttons which closely resemble mother-of-pearl.

Pineapples.—The prospects of the establishment of a pineapple industry in the near future are extremely promising, and the many inquiries received from Canada and the United States show that the attention of capitalists is being directed to the possibilities of the establishment in the Colony of this industry, which has proved so lucrative in the Hawaiian Islands, where climatic and soil conditions are similar to this Colony.

Maize.—There has been a marked falling-off in the export of maize as compared with 1920. It was due to the difficulty of obtaining markets in the neighbouring Dominions which only are accessible to Fiji maize when local crops have failed through drought or other causes. The Colony is capable of growing maize of good quality in large quantities should markets at any time be available. A small corn-meal mill has been established by private enterprise in the Sigatoka District, and it is hoped that this nutritious food may eventually become popular amongst the native and Indian population.

Rubber.—The price of rubber has been so low during 1920 that the value of the quantity exported was only a quarter of the amount obtained in 1920. The industry is now practically at a standstill, and no further tapping is likely to take place until the market improves. Large areas suitable for further rubber production are available, but unless prices advance in the near future, no further extension of the industry is likely for the time being.

Cotton.—Attention is being given to the cultivation of cotton, more especially by the Indian small-holder, to whom the cultivation of cane at present prices is becoming unattractive. In the past, sea-island cotton was grown to advantage in the Colony, and there is every prospect of the re-establishment of this industry in the near future.

Timber.—Many valuable timbers are found in Fiji. At present, however, the export of timber is limited, due mainly to the difficulties of internal transport. Several small mills provide sufficient timber for local use and for the manufacture of the cases

in which bananas are exported. During the year a concession over the mangrove timbers surrounding Vitilevu was granted to a company which proposes to extract tannin from the bark.

Cattle.—Cattle thrive well in all parts of Fiji. There are no serious endemic diseases affecting cattle, nor are there any ticks. Every precaution is taken by inspection and treatment of animals, both at the port of embarkation and at the port of arrival in the Colony, to guard against the introduction of diseases and pests from outside sources. "Stores" can best be raised in the dry zones, whereas the luxuriant state of the wetter zones are more suited for fattening purposes.

Large areas of land suitable for raising cattle are available for leasing. In October, 1920, a lease of 100,000 acres was granted in the Ra District. This lease was greatly improved during the year by sub-division and the laying down of paddocks under *paspalum* grass to supplement the indigenous grasses. This lease is at present running between 4,000 to 5,000 head of cattle. It is hoped that canning works will be established shortly in this locality.

IV. BANKS AND BANKING FACILITIES.

The currency and coin in circulation are English sterling. The two private banks established in the Colony—the Bank of New Zealand and the Bank of New South Wales—have, temporarily, a private note issue, and the value of notes in circulation on the 31st December, 1921, amounted to £7,768. The issue is gradually being withdrawn.

During the year under review, the number of accounts with the Government Savings Bank increased from 1,913 to 2,316, while the amount of deposits increased from £44,959 in 1920 to £68,061 in 1921.

V. LAND.

Prior to the British occupation of Fiji, European settlers had acquired large areas of land from the native chiefs, and, after the deed of cession, Crown Grants for land on claims substantiated before the Lands Commission were issued. In this manner 414,615 acres were alienated.

By the year 1912 Crown Grants for a further area of 20,184 acres of land purchased from the natives had been issued, but in this year, by Ordinance No. 3, the sale of native lands, except to the Government for specific purposes, was prohibited.

The standard tenure now is leasehold up to 99 years, with reassessment of the rental every twenty-fifth year in building leases, and every thirty-third year in agricultural leases. To afford greater security to the tenant, the Government passed Ordinance No. 23 of 1916, which provides that, on refusal by the native owners to renew a lease (without just cause), the owner shall pay the value of the permanent and unexhausted improvements on the land, failing payment of which the Governor in Council may issue a lease renewal on reassessed rental.

Leases of Crown lands are submitted to public auction, usually at an upset premium of £2 to cover cost of advertising the auction sale. Leases of small areas applied for by East Indians are exempt from sale by public auction. The lessee is called upon to arrange for the survey of the land in order that the lease may issue, but he may forthwith enter into occupation of the land.

The rent of land in Fiji varies according to situation and quality. Pasturable lands vary from 3*d.* to 2*s.* per acre, coconut lands from 1*s.* to 5*s.*, hill land for rubber from 6*d.* to 2*s.*, banana, sugar-cane, rice, and maize land from 5*s.* to £1, the latter rental prevailing only in certain favoured localities in which supply and demand have resulted in that high rent.

The total lands alienated to settlers exceeds one-seventh of the area of the Colony. Three-sevenths of the land are of a mountainous character, unsuited for commercial cultivation, and, in any case, a considerable proportion of it will be kept as forest reservations, while another two-sevenths are mountainous, but suited for cattle.

The following statement shows the position as regards land alienated at the end of the year 1921 :—

Title.	On 31st December, 1921.	
	No. of lots.	Area in acres.
Freehold	1,566	526,896
Native leases	5,541	266,372*
Crown leases	150	8,936*
Total	7,257	802,204
Area held by the Crown open to settlement, not the subject of any title.		120,000
Unalienated land still held by the native owners, about.		3,601,416
Total area of Colony		4,523,620

* To arrive at the actual position on the 31st December, 1921, it is necessary to add to the native leases 1,602 leases for 130,794 acres (estimated), and to the Crown leases 92 leases for 4,059 acres (estimated) approved but awaiting survey, execution of leases or otherwise in process of alienation.

(Note : The lease of about 100,000 acres is approved to one applicant.)

VI. EDUCATION.

In 1921 the expenditure on Education was £26,151, as compared with £19,990 in 1920 and £14,185 in 1919.

The secondary schools established in 1917 in Suva had a roll of 217 in December, 1921 (Boys' Grammar School, 107; Girls' Grammar School, with mixed Kindergarten, 110). There were 73 children from the country boarded in the Grammar Schools and Levuka Public School.

Twenty-four schools have been admitted to grants-in-aid under the Primary Schools Regulations, and 23 under the Vernacular Schools Regulations. Of the latter, 17 are for Fijians, and six for Indians.

It has not yet been possible to establish any Government-Assisted Training Colleges, but the Davuilevu Institute of the Methodist Mission qualified for the pass grant under the supplementary regulations in connection with training schools in respect of four students who passed the Teachers' Qualifying Examination. Government assistance has also been continued during 1921 towards the maintenance of six Indian students who were sent to India to study at the Allahabad Agricultural College. The Fijian student trained at Hawkesbury College has returned to Fiji, and two other Fijians trained at Queen Victoria School, Fiji, have been sent to Wanganui Technical College, New Zealand.

The school work was adversely affected at the beginning of the year both by the Australian shipping strike, which delayed the return of teachers to the Colony, and the epidemic of measles locally; and, again in June, many schools were closed on account of a recurrence of measles.

There were 15 passes out of the 26 candidates for the Cambridge Local Examinations in 1920, and in December, 1921, 43 candidates sat for the Cambridge Local Examinations, Preliminary and Junior.

An Ordinance to make compulsory the registration of schools and teachers in the Colony was passed in 1918. Five hundred and sixty-six schools and 880 teachers have been registered up to December 31st, 1921.

The native provinces have subscribed largely towards the cost of establishing four Joint Provincial Schools for Fijian boys. It is intended that each school will board 60 to 70 pupils. Difficulties of obtaining suitable sites and building materials and of staffing have delayed the scheme. One of the four schools was opened in September, 1921, and the second will be in operation in 1922.

There are now altogether 55 Government and Assisted Schools, 21 being for Indians, 27 for Fijians, two receiving both Indians and Fijians, and five for Europeans, other races and half-castes. They have 3,774 pupils, of whom 1,269 are Indians, 2,016 are Fijians, and 479 are Europeans, other races and half-castes. The staff consists of 53 European, 60 Fijian, and 24 Indian teachers. There are village schools in the great majority of native villages. These are supervised by native teachers, and instruction is given in the vernacular.

VII. CLIMATE.

The meteorological observations for 1921 show that the total rainfall recorded at Suva during the year was 170·74 inches, as against 108·45 inches in 1920, and 138·18 in 1919. This rainfall is 56·19 above the average, and rain fell on 232 days.

The greatest rainfall on any one day throughout the year was on the 11th November, when 13·10 inches were recorded. The gauge overflowed on the above date.

The year was an abnormal one throughout as regards rainfall, and the total of 170·74 inches for Suva is the greatest experienced during the 37 years that records have been kept. As will be seen from the summary shown below, the rainfall in country districts in 16 instances was well above the average, in two instances very slightly above, in the remaining three it was below.

Station.	Total for 1921.	Average Annual Rainfall to end of 1921.
Baulailai	97·50	83·65
Buca Bay	102·59	99·52
Labasa C.S.R.	105·42	80·48
Lautoka C.S.R.	94·29	66·41
Levuka	149·33	91·38
Munia, Lau	78·54	70·03
Makogai	83·11	77·09
Nabouwalu, Bua	138·76	101·59
Nadarivatu	129·91	129·17
Nadi	95·74	61·92
Navua	185·16	142·82
Nausori	154·63	112·38
Penang, Ra	76·86	81·63
Rarawai, Ba	97·05	78·79
Rotuma	148·63	135·59
Suva	170·74	114·55
Tavua	69·78	67·68
Valeci, Savusavu	101·52	106·31
Vunidawa, Colo East	184·77	138·70
Wainunu, Bua	183·47	149·46
Waiyevo, Taveuni	96·96	101·89

The mean shade temperatures at Suva for the year were 69·2° F. minimum and 84·8° F. maximum. The average temperature for the year was 77° F. The highest temperature recorded was 90·6° F. on the 19th March, and the lowest was 58·2° F. on the 14th July. The hottest month was March, with an average temperature of 87·4° F. maximum, and 72·8° F. minimum, and the coolest month was July, with an average of 79·9° F. maximum, and 60·5° F. minimum.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The nationalities of vessels visiting the Colony are shown in the following table :—

Nationality.	1920.		1921.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	113	316,877	114	322,740
American	34	20,843	11	8,700
	147	337,720	125	331,440

The number and tonnage of local vessels holding coasting licences were :—

	1920.		1921.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
European-owned vessels ..	91	1,787	68	2,274
Native-owned vessels ..	77	673	48	426
Chinese-owned vessels ..	15	120	13	133
Indian-owned vessels ..	8	42	6	54
Japanese-owned vessels ..	9	79	6	73
	200	2,701	141	2,960

Roads.

The total length of roads in the Colony is estimated to be 198 miles. Of this length only about 74 miles have been metalled.

Bridle tracks linking up the native villages and isolated estates are interlaced across the principal islands.

Rivers.

There are only three rivers which are navigable to any distance except for native craft. The most important is the Rewa River, which forms the main channel of communication between Suva and the interior of Vitilevu. The river is kept free of obstacles by the Rewa River Board, composed of official and unofficial members appointed by the Government, and is navigable for a distance of 50 miles for light draft launches.

Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Service.

Steamers of the following lines, the Canadian-Australian Line, the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, Limited, the Australian United Steam Navigation Company, Limited, and the Commonwealth Line, convey mails between Fiji, Australia and New Zealand. Opportunity is taken also, whenever possible, of despatching mails by visiting vessels.

Inter-island communication is maintained by regular steamer and cutter services. On the larger islands mails are carried by runners, and on the northern side of Vitilevu, from Tavua to Sigatoka, by the tramline belonging to the Colonial Sugar Refining Company.

A mail subsidy at the rate of £5,000 per annum is paid to the Canadian-Australian Line, a condition of the contract being that the vessels remain in port for six hours' daylight on arrival in Suva. A subsidy at the rate of £7,500 per annum was given to the Australian United Steamship Navigation Company, Limited, in respect of the inter-insular steam services during the year.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The towns of Suva and Levuka, situated 54 miles apart on different islands, are connected by a telegraphic and telephonic system, of which eleven and a half miles is by submarine cable. The main island of Vitilevu is intersected by an overhead telephone line which passes through Nausori, Vunedawa, Nadarivatu and Ba, and terminates at Suva and Lautoka. The total distance covered by this line amounts to 125 miles. Of this line, the section between Suva and Ba is the joint property of the Government, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, and the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand. The Government interest in the line terminates at Ba, though, by arrangement, hours have been allotted to the public for the use of this section. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company have also extended their private line from Lautoka to Sigatoka.

Government telephone services are established in the towns of Suva and Levuka, and in the districts of Nausori, Navua, and Taveuni. In addition, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company has established private services at Ba, Lautoka, Nadi, and Sigatoka, which connect with the main overland line to Suva, and at Labasa, in Vanualevu, which connects with the wireless station.

At the principal settlements in the islands outside Vitilevu, viz., Labasa, Taveuni, and Savusavu, which are not otherwise in communication with the capital, wireless stations have been established under Government control. As soon as funds will permit, a wireless telegraphy service will, in addition, be established with the Lau Group of Islands and the Island of Rotuma.

Direct cable communication exists between Fiji and Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, through the Pacific Cable Board, whose office is situated in Suva.

Railways.

There are no Government railways in the Colony, but the Colonial Sugar Refining Company have a small-gauge railway extending from Tavua to Sigatoka, a distance of 120 miles approximately, on which passengers are carried on specified days free of cost.

IX. LEGISLATION.

During the year 37 Ordinances were passed, but, with the following exceptions, were not of general interest.

By Ordinance No. 2, the principle of a tax on Business Profits was adopted in Fiji, in common with most countries throughout the world. The Ordinance provided for the levy of a tax of 5 per cent. on profits up to 15 per cent. per annum upon the capital employed, and of 25 per cent. on profits exceeding that mark. The Income Tax Ordinance of 1920 was amended, and the amount of income exempted from taxation was reduced from £1,000 to £500 for married persons, and from £500 to £250 for unmarried persons. The income tax at present payable in the Colony is 1s. in the pound up to £5,000, 2s. in the pound from £5,000 to £10,000, increasing by 1s. in the pound for each succeeding £5,000 additional income up to £60,000.

F. E. FELL,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year
1093	Cyprus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1094	St. Vincent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1095	Bahamas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1098	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1099	New Hebrides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1100	Smallaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1101	Straits Settlements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1102	Swaziland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1106	Seychelles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1107	Ashanti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1108	Hongkong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1109	British Guiana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1110	British Honduras	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1111	Malta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1115	Mauritius	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1116	Jamaica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1117	Cyprus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1118	Weihaiwei	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1119	Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1120	Gambia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1121	Gambia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1124	Grenada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1125	Zanzibar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1127	Gibraltar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.					Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	..	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	..	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	..	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement
91	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	..	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	..	..	..	..	Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1131.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1921—22.

(For Report for 1920—21 see No. 1085.)



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No. 1131.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921-22.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 29° and 30° South latitude, and between 27° and 28° East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 12,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to emigrate there and build villages and cultivate land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible mountain area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, mealies and Kaffir corn, also cattle, horses and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to nearly 13 million pounds.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes who had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatze, and from there was founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State from 1856 onwards, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, amongst which was the clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was

eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since this date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

GENERAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

The 16th Session of the National Council was held from 2nd to the 19th July, 1921, and amongst the more important matters dealt with were the following:—

- (1) A request for an increase of Medical Officers.
- (2) Amendments to the Proclamation constituting the Council.
It was suggested that the present system of nominating members should cease, and that, with the exception of 24 Chiefs, the remainder should be elected by the nation. The Council, however, was divided as to the adoption of this motion.
- (3) Institution of Undenominational Schools.—The motion, however, was deemed to be impracticable.
- (4) Amendments to native laws dealing with abduction and seduction were passed, but suggested amendments dealing with appeals from Chief's Courts were rejected.
- (5) Leper Settlement.—The Superintendent gave the Council a detailed report on conditions prevailing in the Settlement, and, after discussion, the Council agreed that marriages between lepers should not be sanctioned.
- (6) Debate on the unrest in Leribe, which eventually led to the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief deciding to proceed there at the earliest convenient date.

During May, Their Royal Highnesses, Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught paid a four days' visit to Maseru. His Royal Highness, on arrival, was escorted from the station by some 20,000 mounted Basuto, and, after a short interval at the headquarter office, where some addresses were presented, the Royal party proceeded to the old race-course, where a "Pitso" of the nation was held: this was attended by upwards of 50,000 natives.

Their Royal Highnesses attended the Maseru Agricultural Show and Race Meeting, and paid a visit to the Leper Settlement, as well as to other places of interest.

This was the first occasion on which this territory has been visited by members of the Royal Family, and the Paramount Chief and nation continue to express gratitude for the great honour done to them.

After the termination of the Royal visit, the Resident Commissioner, Paramount Chief and a large following of other Chiefs proceeded to Leribe for the purpose of enquiring into the causes of unrest in that district. A "Pitso," lasting several days, took place, and orders were issued for the removal of certain of Jonathan's sons from the mountain area. These young men had been placed by their father over the heads of others, whose rights they usurped, and, as a result, a certain amount of bloodshed had been caused. The orders were carried out, and since then the situation in the Leribe district has become more or less normal.

Owing to the need for increased revenue, an income-tax was imposed on the lines of that levied in the Union of South Africa. All natives subject to the native tax laws were exempted. The first receipts from the tax were much below the estimate, but this was wholly due to the wave of commercial depression which swept through the country, and from which a recovery is only just beginning.

The death took place on 8th October, 1921, of Doctor J. H. Wroughton from blood-poisoning as the result of holding a post-mortem examination. Doctor Wroughton had joined the Service in March, 1908, and had served as a Medical Officer in various districts.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for Basutoland for the year ended 31st March, 1922, amounted to £209,802, a decrease of £16,522 on the preceding year's revenue. There was a considerable drop in the amount received for Customs, which showed a decrease of £33,730 on the receipts of the preceding year. There was also a falling-off in the receipts for other heads of revenue due to adverse trade conditions. Under native tax, an increase of £20,095 was realized, which was the result of the increase in the rate of the tax from £1 to £1 5s. per annum, provided for under Basutoland Proclamation No. 53 of 31st December, 1920. The revenue derived from income-tax during the year, legislated for under Basutoland Proclamation No. 52 of 31st December, 1920, was £5,268 short of the estimate, due to the commercial depression which existed during the major part of the year.

The following figures denote the total revenue and expenditure during the past three years:—

REVENUE.		
1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
£199,886.	£226,324.	£209,802.
EXPENDITURE.		
£202,441.	£252,953.	£248,078.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities on the 31st March, 1922, amounted to £69,095.

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from, and the imports into the territory during the calendar year 1921, the figures for 1920 being also given:—

IMPORTS.

	1920.		1921.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandise	—	1,091,840	—	468,148
Livestock:—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	476	3,608	66	488
Cattle	447	2,429	66	222
Sheep and Goats	190	174	230	202
Grain:—	<i>Muids.</i>		<i>Muids.</i>	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	1,624	4,996	1,284	2,932
Maize and Maize-meal ..	41,526	54,445	51,949	36,104
Kaffir Corn	15,339	23,089	12,509	10,360
Other Produce	—	406	—	494
	—	1,180,987	—	518,950
Government Imports ..	—	38,401	—	37,503
Total Imports	—	1,219,388	—	556,453

EXPORTS.

	1920.		1921.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	270	2,784	449	3,005
Cattle	12,290	106,284	9,370	44,573
Sheep and Goats	2,155	2,622	6,357	3,657
	<i>Muids.</i>		<i>Muids.</i>	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	88,695	218,386	110,383	152,762
Maize and Maize-meal ..	28,754	21,352	43,478	16,992
Kaffir Corn	19,119	26,553	17,146	8,563
Oats, Barley and Rye ..	110	108	62	43
Beans and Peas	3,098	4,763	1,623	1,800
	<i>lb.</i>		<i>lb.</i>	
Hair, Angora	2,259,741	112,358	2,330,006	63,756
Wool	10,030,954	418,785	12,826,772	211,981
Hides	210,960	9,690	60,215	899
Skins, Sheep	375,489	11,903	86,433	732
Miscellaneous	—	1,450	—	1,685
Total Exports	—	937,038	—	510,448

As foreshadowed in the Report for the year 1920, an early return to a state of prosperity—from a trade point of view—was not anticipated, but the balance of trade against the territory for the

period now under review was only some £46,000, as compared with £282,350 for 1920. There is, therefore, every reason to hope that the time is not far distant when the balance may again be on the right side.

To those who have taken an interest in the exports from Basutoland for some considerable number of years, it must be quite evident that they consist mainly (in fact, 93 per cent. of them) of four items only, viz. : Livestock, wheat and wheat-products, Angora hair, and wool. As compared with the previous year, the following comparisons will prove instructive with reference to the four particular exports above-mentioned :—

Livestock.—Total value, £51,235, or 54 per cent. less than 1920.

Wheat and its Products.—£152,762, there being an increase of 24 per cent. in the quantity exported, but a decrease in value of 30 per cent.

Angora Hair.—£63,756, showing an increase in weight of 3·3 per cent., but a falling-off in value of 42·25 per cent.

Wool.—£211,981, showing an increase in weight of 27·8 per cent., but a decreased value of 49 per cent.

It may be stated, with reference to the decline in value of all our principal exports, that Basutoland has suffered in common with the whole world, by reason of the great deflation of prices since the Armistice: for instance, throughout the whole of South Africa livestock can only be sold to-day at ruinous prices. Wheat was forced up to famine price, and is only now coming down to normal values. The same remarks apply to wool and mohair.

It must not be supposed, however, that two and three-quarter million pounds of wool represent the increased production for one season. It is more than probable that a considerable proportion of this apparent increase was held over from the previous year. The average weight for the two years (1920 and 1921) would thus be about 11,500,000 lb. a year, and thus approximate to the "high-water mark" reached a few years ago. It is very questionable, however, if the above records will be materially increased under the conditions now practised by flock-owners in the territory, for the reasons stated in a previous report.

Only 7 per cent. remains to represent all the other articles exported, such as: Maize, Kaffir corn, hides, skins, and miscellaneous, of which the only articles calling for remark would appear to be maize and Kaffir corn; but as 64,458 muids were imported (or re-imported) as against 60,624 muids exported, there must have been a shortage in the food supply of these cereals of some 4,000 muids.

The labour market affects trade considerably, and the fact of the diamond mines being closed to our labourers must necessarily reduce the purchasing power of the native population.

No financial statistics are available to give the actual amount earned annually from labour, that is, for wages earned outside the territory; but if we remember that some 50,000 labour passes are issued annually, and that it would not be unreasonable to estimate that £5 per head might represent the sum of money remitted to his relatives or brought back to Basutoland by each labourer on his return from work, it can easily be seen that the gross result is considerable, and that labour is one of the territory's most valuable assets.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is over 22,500, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 32,000.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions for the year ending December has increased during the last ten years from 15,271 in 1912 to 22,586 in 1921.

As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the average attendance for 1921 of 893. This was due chiefly to epidemics of influenza and typhus.

Apart from the prevalence of epidemics, schools were affected by the almost unprecedented state of poverty which exists in the country, and which is evidenced in nearly every school by the ragged and scanty clothing of the pupils. Goatskins have come into wear again, and in some cases enterprising individuals have woven for themselves garments made from the wool of their own sheep.

The following grants were made to Missions for elementary schools and other educational institutions:—

Paris Evangelical Mission Society	...	...	£21,528
Roman Catholic Mission	...	...	5,330
Church of England	...	...	3,315
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	£30,173

Of the total grant, £4,450 was spent on boarding institutions, and £25,723 on elementary schools. The latter figure works out at the rate of 16s. 4d. per pupil on the roll of elementary schools, or at the rate of 23s. 4d. per pupil if calculated on average attendance. In a country like this, where prices are comparatively high, it is improbable that education could be given at less cost per pupil than the figures quoted above.

The increase of about £10,000 above last year's grant was chiefly expended in raising the salaries of teachers which for many years had been quite inadequate. The new scale of salaries can hardly be said to have given general satisfaction, but until a larger share of the revenue is devoted to education, it will not be possible to raise substantially the salaries of the eight hundred teachers engaged in the elementary schools.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO SIZE AND DENOMINATION.

Mission.	Over 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	Under 20	Total
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	1	3	14	43	25	58	113	29	34	320
Roman Catholic	—	5	7	8	3	10	24	9	6	72
Church of England	—	1	—	6	2	12	22	9	7	59
	1	9	21	57	30	80	159	47	47	451

ENROLMENT OF PUPILS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1921.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	7,974	15,441	23,415	7,587	15,222	22,809
Roman Catholic Church of England.. ..	1,088	3,753	4,841	1,260	4,062	5,322
	1,195	2,443	3,638	1,082	2,298	3,380
	10,257	21,637	31,894	9,929	21,582	31,511

This shows a decrease of 383.

ENROLMENT OF PUPILS IN INSTITUTIONS.

Institution.	Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1921.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	155	—	155	119	—	119
Th. Morena	"	—	74	74	—	38	38
Leloaleng.	"	31	—	31	32	—	32
Roma ..	Roman Catholic	120	259	379	88	226	314
Masite ..	Church of Eng- land.	23	—	23	12	—	12
Maseru ..	"	—	28	28	—	19	19
		329	361	690	251	283	534

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1920.			Year ending December, 1921.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	5,798	10,677	16,475	5,317	10,324	15,641
Roman Catholic ..	879	2,943	3,822	933	3,087	4,020
Church of England ..	839	1,713	2,552	775	1,640	2,415
	7,516	15,333	22,849	7,025	15,051	22,076

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

In December, 1921, there were 121 pupils in the six schools for European children, being an increase of seven pupils as compared with last year's figures.

VETERINARY.

Anthrax has been very prevalent during the last year, and in some centres has assumed serious proportions. An Anthrax Proclamation has now been issued, and this, it is hoped, will, in the future, cause owners to carry out the necessary precautions essential to prevent further outbreaks, precautions that have for years been utterly disregarded and are responsible for the widespread infection that exists in the Territory to-day. During the year 12,993 animals were inoculated; 5,234 more than last year.

The East Coast Fever outlook has continued satisfactory and justified the economies of last year.

There is every evidence that the organism of Quarter Evil has not a wide distribution in Basutoland, and only 773 preventive doses have been issued for this disease.

Equine Biliary Fever has been fairly prevalent, and in many cases the infections have been very acute, but all animals have responded to curative treatment.

Strangles has been very prevalent, and 181 horses have been inoculated for this disease.

Bovine anaplasmosis has not been so prevalent as usual, probably due to the long periods of drought during the last year; the extremely dry conditions being inimical to the successful hatching out of tick life.

During the winter, Equine Sarcoptic Mange began to show itself at different centres, and with the advent of a bad droughty spring this disease assumed serious proportions. A short treatise was circulated in the native press and to chiefs, drawing their attention to the seriousness of this disease and giving them advice as to treatment. 234 horses were treated, and it behoves horse-

owners to eradicate this disease during the summer months when there is plenty of green grass, or serious losses will take place during the next winter.

During the year 125 blood smears were examined microscopically, and most of these were suspected cases of anthrax.

The slump in slaughter-stock has reacted adversely on the export of cattle at Qacha's Nek, only 1,069 head having passed through the dipping tank for export.

At Maseru 934 cattle and 238 horses were dipped for mange and lice.

From the following statistics it will be seen that the dipping of sheep is making satisfactory progress, no less than 302,713 sheep and goats having passed through the tanks, an increase of 39,528 on the preceding year.

During the year a proclamation was issued making it illegal to allow sheep to stray or be driven into the Union except through certain prescribed ports of exit, and it is hoped that this will be instrumental in reducing the number of complaints of scabby sheep trespassing into the Union.

Legislation is also contemplated to deal with scab on Government Reserves.

The following are the details of sheep and goats dipped :—

		Dipped for Export.		
Sheep.	Goats.	Sheep.	Goats.	Total.
279,874	5,750	13,957	3,132	302,713

STUD.

As anticipated, the abnormal drought that existed during the whole of the stud season last year has had its adverse effect on the foal return.

102 foals were born, 54 of these in the Maseru district. The present season commenced droughty, but early in November good rains fell, and it is anticipated, as a result, next foaling season will be very much better than the last. 337 mares have been covered this season.

During the year the stallions Royal Salute and Signal Hill were sold on account of old age, and the Basuto pony stallion Makhakhe purchased.

Drought interfered seriously with the agricultural shows, and only two were held in the territory.

During the year 4,609 professional visits and attendances were made by the principal veterinary surgeon.

AGRICULTURE.

The grant for agriculture and tree-planting during the period under review was £1,200, and for donga prevention £500.

Owing to the smallness of the grants, very little fresh work was undertaken; existing work in tree-planting and donga prevention was kept going.

Tree nurseries are maintained at each of the Government camps and also at the sub-district station of Butha Buthe. There were approximately 154,095 trees on hand at the end of 1921, and some 42,362 were issued to Europeans and natives during the year. The season has been most unfavourable for tree-planting, which accounts for the large number of trees on hand in the nurseries.

Donga prevention.—In December this territory was visited by the Union Drought Investigation Commission, who inspected most of the work done on donga prevention, and expressed themselves very satisfied with the results.

Articles, in Sesuto, on the destruction of noxious weeds have been published in the native newspapers.

Lectures were delivered on agriculture and gardening to the natives at the Marist Brothers Mission School at Roma.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1920:—

		Labour.	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	Total.
1920	...	58,305	103,999	162,304
1921	...	67,829	50,442	118,271

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the territory, and during the year 1,527 prisoners passed through them as compared with 1,541 during the year 1920.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1921 was 44 as compared with 125 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 160 as compared with 195 in 1920.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £7,668 17s. 11d. as compared with £7,859 16s. 8d. for the year 1920-1921.

The expenditure amounted to £10,724 14s. 5d. as compared with £9,625 10s. 8d. for 1920-1921.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table:—

	<i>Deposits.</i>	<i>Withdrawals.</i>
1920-21 =	1,337 value £8,778.	566 value £9,950
1921-22 =	926 value £5,653.	531 value £8,189

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	<i>Issued.</i>	<i>Paid.</i>
1920-21 = 28,371 value £32,551	24,834 value £36,002	
1921-22 = 21,927 value £22,743	20,380 value £22,295	

MEDICAL.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

Typhus fever has been prevalent during the year, the number of cases and death-rate being approximately the same as last year (503 cases, 93 deaths).

Propaganda work amongst the people has been continued, but, as stated in a previous report, the low death-rate renders them apathetic in regard to preventive measures.

Cases have on several occasions been introduced from the Union where the disease is endemic.

Influenza, though very prevalent, was trivial in character (963 cases with two deaths).

Pneumonia of a mild type has been noted with only two deaths out of 79 cases reported.

Dysentery. There were 187 cases and 14 deaths.

Smallpox was prevalent in one district (Leribe). 510 cases with 53 deaths out of a total of 521 cases and 53 deaths.

Varicella was often observed, and in native races is often mistaken for smallpox by unpractised observers.

Vaccination was enforced as far as possible when smallpox broke out in Leribe district, and is still being prosecuted throughout the territory; 78,961 people were vaccinated.

In connection with the above-mentioned infectious diseases, it is worthy of note that in the district most remote from contact with European centres, viz., Qacha's Nek, there were but few cases of any kind.

The minor infectious diseases, *e.g.*, measles, whooping-cough, do not call for special notice.

Steps were taken during the year in regard to the prevalence of syphilis. All cases of syphilis now receive free treatment, and depots have been established for the distribution of anti-syphilitic remedies. Great assistance in this connection has been given by the various missionary societies.

This action has been greatly appreciated by the natives. Remedies have been placed within reach of those living far away from the magistracies, and large numbers avail themselves of these facilities.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

On the 31st December, 1921, there were in the settlement 491 patients—229 males and 262 females, showing an increase of 77 over the number resident on the same date the previous year.

90 patients were admitted and 63 deserters were re-admitted.

The desertions during the year numbered 41. There were only 25 deaths—the smallest on record since the opening of the institution.

Fourteen patients were discharged as arrested cases, and this result is in no small measure due to the success of the sodium morrhuate treatment adopted by Doctor Slack, the Medical Officer. A beginning has also been made with the treatment of leprosy by the ethyl-esters of the Chaulmoogric acids; but it has not been in use long enough for an opinion as to its efficiency to be given.

The general health of the establishment has been excellent during the year. There have been no epidemics, and scorbutic disease has been absent, due entirely to the addition of milk and vegetables to the dietary.

232 patients passed through the hospitals during the year, most of them suffering from cellulitis, ulcers, or other trophic lesions of leprosy.

Accommodation is provided in the infirm huts for 72 old and infirm cases. These infirmaries were provided with beds which added greatly to the comfort of the patients and to the convenience of the nursing staff. It is hoped in the coming year to provide better and more suitable accommodation for the male infirm cases. Heating-stoves were put in the hospital wards, and proved of great use during the cold winter months.

The working of the institution proceeded smoothly and satisfactorily during the year under review. The behaviour of the patients was good, and the offences dealt with were few in number and minor in nature, being mostly for breaches of the regulations.

The contented condition of the patients is influencing opinion outside, which is shown by a certain number of lepers voluntarily presenting themselves for certification, and by the return of deserters, who find that they are better within the settlement than living a precarious existence outside.

Work of one kind or another is found for 230 of the more able-bodied patients of both sexes—representing about £2,000 in wages in the year. All the sanitary services, cleansing and washing are done by the lepers. The sewing room, under the charge of the matron, and employing 15 women, does excellent work, and all the clothing for the women and children is made there. A considerable saving is thereby effected for the Government every year. Besides a lot of mending, etc., 2,771 garments were made during the year.

A tailor's shop, for the altering and repair of men's attire, was opened in the male compound, and greatly reduced the issue of clothing, especially to the sanitary and working gangs, and it is hoped a considerable saving will be made in this respect in course of time. There is also a shoemaker's shop for the repair of shoes and sandals in the male compound, where a certain amount of indifferent work is done—indifferent on account of the want of

a competent leper shoemaker. In this shop there is employed a leper who makes artificial limbs and stumps. Although not works of art, they answer the purpose for which they are intended.

There was a fair harvest, and 400 bags of mealies which had been grown in their plots and gardens were purchased from the lepers.

The farm was placed under the supervision of the agricultural officer, and provided an efficient supply of milk and potatoes, which contributed greatly to the improved health of the patients. It is hoped that, once the farm is got into good running order, it will be able to produce much, if not all, of the 1,200 bags of mealies and 500 bags of kaffir corn required annually for feeding the patients.

The European staff is now at full strength. The employment of an artizan has helped greatly in putting the place into thorough repair, and at little expense to the Government.

The number of guards is being gradually reduced as opportunity offers. Provision has hitherto been made on the estimates for 50, and the number now stands at 39.

The water-supply was better this year than last; but, until the supply, even in the severest droughts, is made an ample one, the position will still be precarious and not what it should be in an institution of this kind, where bodily cleanliness is an absolute necessity.

Quarters for the Chaplain, and a hut for the incinerator attendants were built during the year. The staff-servants' quarters were also completed.

Orchards for the patients were fenced off between the central offices and the compounds, and the one on the female side planted with different varieties of fruit-trees.

A poultry run has been erected outside the female compound, and has contributed much to the cleanliness of that compound, as has also the erection of cooking scherms to each hut.

R. B. SMITH,
*Government Secretary,
Basutoland.*

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamacia	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1132

BERMUDA

REPORT FOR 1921

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1077.)



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No. 1132.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "*Legatio Babylonica*" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "*La Barmuda*" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "*The Sea Venture*," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, *The Sea Venture Flat*.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "*The Somers' Islands*." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards The Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "*The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands*."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and two unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—GENERAL REVIEW.

1. During the year 1921 the improved conditions of trade, to which allusion was made in the report for 1920, were generally maintained, and though the total revenue for the year was slightly lower than that of the previous year, the financial situation, as will appear from the financial and commercial sections of this Report, may be regarded as satisfactory.

2. Considerable progress was made by the Bermuda Development Company in connexion with their work at Tucker's Town, and despite the difficulties due to the shortage of labour, the new golf course is in a fair way towards completion, and hopes are entertained of throwing at least nine holes open to the public early in 1922.

3. Another golf course was constructed by private enterprise at Riddle's Bay, and the links and club-house will be thrown open to the public in the new year.

4. The general shortage of labour seriously handicapped the progress of all construction work both public and private alike. In this respect the Department of Public Works suffered, especially owing to the difficulty of competing with the high rates offered by the private employer. The labour shortage was not, however,

confined to skilled labour, and considerable difficulty was experienced during November and December in securing the necessary dock-labour for the expeditious handling of cargoes. Towards the end of the year the situation became so acute that an Immigrant Labour Board was appointed for the purpose of encouraging the immigration of labourers into the Colony.

5. The Police Force, which was entirely reorganised during 1920, attained a very high level of efficiency during the year, and the results obtained have demonstrated the wisdom of improving the conditions of service.

6. The concluding months of the year were remarkable for the important character of much of the legislation that was enacted. As a result of the report of the Select Committee of the Assembly which was appointed to consider the general reorganisation of the public service, a series of Bills was introduced embracing all branches of the Civil Service. The general result of these measures, which came into force with effect from 1st January, 1922, is to substitute fixed consolidated rates of salary for the former system of payment partly by salary partly by fees, and so far as possible to reduce the number of part-time offices and replace them by a smaller number of whole-time posts. The salaries fixed were, generally speaking, based on the average remuneration (i.e., salary and fees) previously drawn by the officer plus the War bonus granted temporarily on account of the increased cost of living.

7. The cost of living in Bermuda continued to be abnormally high, and though some slight improvement was shown towards the end of the year, in some measure due to the downward tendency of exchange on the United States of America and Canada, the general situation has improved but little during the year under review. Despite high prices a general advance in prosperity has been maintained, and the year was marked by the initiation of a number of private ventures of a commercial nature, and the number of private Bills which were introduced and passed was greatly in excess of those introduced in any previous session of recent years.

8. The decennial census was held this year in April. A more detailed account will be found under the heading "Vital Statistics." The total civil population was 20,127, as against 18,994 in 1911, showing an increase of 1,133 as compared with an increase of 1,459 between 1901 and 1911.

II.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

9. The total Revenue for the year 1921 was £201,382, and the Expenditure £237,492; the corresponding figures for 1920 being Revenue £219,753, and Expenditure £186,470. The large

increase in expenditure was due in part to the investment of £25,000, to which further reference is made below. This transaction is not specially shown, but appears on the expenditure side of the account under "Miscellaneous." There were also increases under Public Works and all the other main heads of service.

10. The balance in the Treasury on 31st December, 1921, was £13,254, as compared with £36,133, the actual balance carried forward for the services of 1921 after deducting £13,132 for the payment of certain liabilities incurred over the s.s. "Charybdis" from the balance of £49,365 on 31st December, 1920.

11. The following is a comparative table of Revenue and Expenditure from 1914 onwards:—

					<i>Revenue.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>
					£		£
1914	...	...	...	...	80,504	...	89,575
1915	...	...	...	...	106,467	...	97,643
1916	...	...	...	...	107,055	...	109,652
1917	...	...	...	...	100,447	...	105,867
1918	...	...	...	...	91,645	...	90,684
1919	...	...	...	...	119,091	...	107,240
1920	...	...	...	...	219,753	...	186,470
1921	...	...	...	...	201,382	...	237,492

Revenue.

12. The Revenue for 1921 showed on paper a decrease of £18,371, compared with the corresponding figure for 1920. This apparent decrease is due to the fact that the Revenue figures for 1920 were artificially inflated by the inclusion of a sum of £45,684—a local loan raised to pay off certain War liabilities—which under the local system of accounting was included in the total Revenue figures for 1920. If this sum be excluded, the figures show a net increase of £27,313 over the Revenue returns for 1920. The largest falling-off of revenue under any one head is £2,037 under Customs 10 per cent. *ad valorem*. This decrease is to be accounted for by the slight fall in prices during the year of *ad valorem* goods with the resultant decrease to the duty levied upon them.

13. The total receipts from Customs Duties during 1921 were £164,269, as compared with £145,411 during 1920, showing a total increase of £18,858.

The principal increases worthy of note were:—

					<i>Receipts.</i>		<i>Increase</i>
					£		£
10 per cent. Surtax on all import duties	...	...	...	...	14,876	...	1,677
Fuel-oil	...	...	...	...	3,191	...	1,745
Rum	...	...	...	...	12,732	...	2,451
Spirits	...	...	...	...	30,131	...	16,543

Owing to a decrease in the importation of coal, the Customs receipts under this head show a decrease of £1,503, but against this must be set off the increase under "Fuel-oil," due to the West India Oil Company's installation and the increasing number of ships consuming oil fuel.

The increase in revenue obtained from rum and spirits arose from larger imports required to meet demands of the growing tourist and shipping trade, and also from the withdrawal of abnormally large quantities of liquor from bond in the month of December with a view to avoiding the increased rates of Customs Duty prescribed by the Customs Tariff Act, 1921.

14. Receipts from sources other than Customs, exclusive of loans, totalled £37,112, as compared with £28,658 for 1920, the principal items being Postal Revenue £23,685, and Reimbursements to Government £6,544, an increase of £2,895 under general miscellaneous receipts.

Expenditure.

15. Of the total expenditure, £48,208 was paid in personal emoluments, and £189,284 under "other charges." The corresponding figures for 1920 were personal emoluments £45,642, and other charges £113,584 (exclusive of expenditure on loan account). The total for personal emoluments included bonuses on official salaries pending the reorganisation of the Public Service, which takes effect from 1st January, 1922.

16. Nearly all heads of expenditure showed an increase, the largest being £10,715, under the head "Miscellaneous." Of the total expenditure of £58,665 under this head, £25,000 was invested, £15,000 to create a sinking fund for the 1920 loan of £45,000, and £10,000 to create a reserve fund for extraordinary expenditure on public works, so that the normal expenditure under this head actually showed a decrease.

17. A new head of expenditure was created for services connected with the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, and a sum of £7,764 provided. The head, "Public Health," to which this service was charged, previously showed a reduction of £2,674 accordingly.

18. Education showed an increase of £1,964, due to an increase in the grants made to schools and teachers; Agriculture £2,352, owing to expenditure incurred on improvement of live-stock, and expenses in connexion with the inspection of produce; Police, an increase of £3,973, due to increase of personnel and salaries.

19. The Board of Trade showed an increase of £1,844 on account of increased subsidies to ferry services, and the Trade Development Board an increase of £8,753 due to increased steamer subsidies and an extensive campaign of advertisement.

20. Expenditure on public works totalled £46,609, an increase of £4,842 over 1920, chiefly due to work on the hospital and the continuance of dredging operations.

Assets and Liabilities.

21. The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt, totalled £28,000 on account of inconvertible £1 notes issued during the War. The assets totalled £98,122, including an investment fund as surety for the note issue, the nominal value of which was £37,366. Under assets has also been included a sum of £5,000 advanced to and held by the Crown Agents to be utilised, as required, in connexion with the Colony's current account for the purchase of stores, etc., made through the Crown Agents. Assets also include a sum of £15,238, being the balance of advances made to the Savings Bank which the Bank is not yet in a position to refund.

22. The Public Debt is £85,000, viz.: (1) £40,000 in local inscribed stock at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. raised in 1893 for channel improvements, redeemable in 1923; the Sinking Fund totals £45,851 (nominal value of stock): (2) £45,000 raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities incurred during the War, redeemable in 1950. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund of £1,500 was £16,176 on 31st December, 1921. Practically all the stock in both loans is held in the Colony.

III.—COMMERCIAL.

23. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1921 was £1,564,866, as against £1,680,118 for 1920, a falling-off of £115,252. Imports showed a falling-off of £74,010, and exports £41,242, compared with the corresponding figures for 1920. The figures for imports and exports since 1913 are shown below:—

					<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>
					£		£
1913	...	...	...	...	570,575	...	90,695
1914	...	...	...	...	565,611	...	106,661
1915	...	...	...	...	579,828	...	101,663
1916	...	...	...	...	734,799	...	139,825
1917	...	...	...	...	674,493	...	207,724
1918	...	...	...	...	692,742	...	139,825
1919	...	...	...	...	792,683	...	208,708
1920	...	...	...	...	1,414,250	...	265,868*
1921	...	...	...	...	1,340,240	...	224,626*

* Includes £20,000 in specie.

The balance between imports and exports is made up by:—

(a) The Tourist Trade.

(b) Bunkering and Repairs of Shipping.

(c) Expenditure by Imperial Government on Local Forces.

Imports.

24. Imports showed a falling-off of £74,010. The decrease is to be accounted for by the fall in the prices of goods paying *ad valorem* duty. This was particularly marked in many of the staple articles of food imported in large quantities for the use of the tourist population. Thus, in the case of frozen meat (both beef and mutton), the actual quantity imported was in excess of last year's figures, but the value of the imports under each head showed a decrease.

25. This is further illustrated by the tonnage figures under the head of "Shipping." The volume of trade showed a marked increase despite the falling-off in the value of the import and export trade. The imports of coal showed a considerable decrease, which was compensated for, however, by the increased imports of Fuel-oil, £45,547, as against £25,012 in 1920.

Exports.

26. The total value of exports was £224,626. Of this sum the value of vegetable crops exported was £133,711, a decrease of £102,765. The balance includes re-exports, such as spirits (whiskey £55,200), empty containers, etc., and £20,000 in specie. Here again the decrease is largely to be accounted for by a fall in the value, and not in the quantity, of exports. Thus, in 1921, the quantity of potatoes exported was greater (58,182 barrels, as compared with 54,027), but the value was less, £92,227, as against £145,283.

The quantity of green vegetables exported was slightly in excess of the figures for last year, 263,600 crates, as against 260,000, of which 263,037 were exported to the United States of America, the balance to Canada (450), and the British West Indies (114). The value of these exports was £32,819, as against £32,700 in 1920.

The shipments of onions were valued at £8,665, as compared with £58,427 in 1920, a decrease of £49,762. This was due to the large falling-off of shipments to the United States of America, only 22,456 crates being exported as compared with 81,357 in 1920.

Direction of Trade.

27. The sources of imports as compared with 1920 are shown in the following statement:—

	1920. £		1921. £
From United Kingdom	271,708	...	351,289
„ Canada	338,166	...	221,152
„ Other British Possessions	59,775	...	18,337
„ Foreign Countries	744,601	...	749,462
	<u>£1,414,250</u>		<u>£1,340,240</u>

The falling-off in the total value of imports is explained by the considerable decrease in the value of imports from Canada and other British Possessions.

28. The largest items of import from the United Kingdom were clothing (£54,767), cotton goods (£21,755), fancy goods (£39,958), cigarettes (£11,733), and wines and spirits (£56,095).

29. The principal imports from Canada were butter, bran, box materials, canned fish, cheese, flour, hay and oats, paper and potatoes (largely for seed). Imports from Canada *viâ* United States ports appear as of United States origin. The value of flour imported from Canada was £29,726, as compared with £63,348 in 1920, while the value of the flour imported from the United States of America was double that of last year. Canadian bran showed a decrease of £13,417, for a similar reason. The value of Canadian butter imported was less by £1,777, canned goods by £5,930, to mention some of the more important decreases. These figures are no doubt largely to be explained by the fact that they refer to articles of food required mainly for the tourist population resident in hotels, the more important of which are under American management and obtain their supplies direct from New York.

30. Imports from other British Possessions are entirely from the British West Indies, and consist of sugar, rum and cigars. The decrease of £41,438, compared with the figures for 1920, was chiefly due to the falling-off of importations of sugar from the West Indies. The value of sugar imported was £1,336, as compared with £36,975 in 1920. The importations of sugar from the United States of America showed a great increase, £17,296, as compared with £8,245 in 1920. The total quantity of sugar imported from all sources was 861 tons, as compared with 1,031 tons in 1920, but the actual value was £18,827, as compared with £5,116, an increase of £13,711.

The value of rum imported from the West Indies also dropped from £9,889 in 1920 to £4,951 in 1921.

31. Imports from foreign countries are practically all from the United States of America, and cover a wide range of articles. The largest items were beef (chilled) £47,853, boots and shoes £23,294, canned goods £15,835, cotton goods £43,647, electrical goods £20,023, fancy goods £21,022, groceries £19,872, hardware £33,809, smoked meats £35,252, coal £40,086, fuel-oil £45,547.

Agriculture.

32. The forecast given in last year's report as to the likelihood of the season 1920-21 proving a poor one unfortunately has proved correct, and the year was characterized by a general fall in prices both in the American and Canadian markets, green vegetables alone maintaining their last year's figures.

33. The actual quantity of potatoes exported was in excess of the corresponding figure for last year, but their value was less by £53,056.

34. The worst slump in market prices prevailed in the case of onions, with the result that there was a very heavy falling-off in shipments all round. Only £8,665 worth was shipped this year, a decrease of £49,762. Shipments to the United States of America suffered most, 22,456 crates being exported, as compared with 81,357 in 1920.

35. The shortage of labour was serious, and many farmers are talking of letting some of their land go out of cultivation in consequence.

Shipping.

36. The year 1921 was one of the busiest on record in the local "shipping" trade, *i.e.*, the bunkering, supply and repairing of ships. The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is given below:—

					<i>British.</i> Tons.		<i>Total.</i> Tons.
1917	...	...	...	...	687,340	...	1,087,980
1918	...	...	...	...	368,343	...	732,613
1919	...	...	...	...	632,212	...	1,258,188
1920	...	...	...	...	1,019,373	...	2,371,064
1921	...	...	...	...	1,210,649	...	2,387,797

37. Of foreign tonnage using the port, by far the largest proportion was American shipping (858,891 tons). A large number of American vessels put in for coal, oil, or repairs, and much of the coal used is imported in American bottoms. British tonnage largely predominates at Hamilton, the port of call for the regular lines, and foreign tonnage at St. George's, where the great bulk of the repairing and bunkering is done. The steam-coal used is almost entirely Pocahontas coal from the United States.

Tourist Trade.

38. About 17,000 "tourists" are estimated to have visited the Colony during 1921, an increase of about 5,000 over the figures for 1920. These figures really cover part of two "seasons," as the "season" runs from November in one calendar year to the end of April or early May in the next. Summer travel was on the increase, and there is no doubt that it will increase to a much larger extent in the near future. The first step is to procure a more frequent steamship service during the summer months, and this question is already engaging the attention of the Trade Development Board.

39. The very considerable increase in the volume of the tourist trade has demonstrated the wisdom of the energetic policy of publicity and advertisement adopted by the Trade Development Board. A new departure this year was the allocation of a sum

of £2,500 for the local entertainment of visitors. Band concerts were arranged, sporting and athletic meetings organised, and an open tennis tournament inaugurated, in which some of the leading players in the United States of America took part.

40. Another new departure was the inauguration of a local Publicity Bureau, from which weekly letters were circulated to 100 or 130 newspapers.

41. Two new golf-courses are in course of construction, one at Riddle's Bay, the other at "Tucker's Town." The latter forms part of a large scheme, formulated and principally carried out by Furness, Withy & Co., for the development of a large area in beautiful surroundings near Castle Harbour.

Currency and Banking.

42. The rate for sterling exchange showed a slight improvement towards the end of the year, but, generally speaking, the rate continued to be unfavourable. Its effect on trading conditions is not only to provide a continued and serious additional element of uncertainty, but also to add considerably to the apparent cost of all goods not purchased in the United Kingdom or European countries. It also is a frequent cause of misunderstanding and dispute with foreign visitors, who are perplexed by the constant variations in the value of their money. The Government has published notices drawing attention to the fact that legal tender is British currency only, and that purchasers may demand that charges be made in this currency unless it has been previously otherwise agreed. One effect, which has, perhaps, been not without advantage to the Government, is the fact that the rate of exchange tends to keep any surplus available within the Colony. It is also generally stated that the banks, which are in a very sound financial position, have made considerable profits through exchange transactions.

43. No further issue of local notes has been made, though a number of notes for 5s. and 2s. 6d., which had been prepared to meet a threatened shortage of silver coin in 1920, are still held in reserve.

44. In addition to British Treasury notes, there is a considerable quantity of American paper in circulation, which is naturally eagerly sought for at the present rates of exchange, so much so that it can hardly be said to be "in circulation" at all. It is largely used for remittances to the United States of America.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Steamship.

45. The service with New York of the Furness Bermuda Line was admirably carried on and gave general satisfaction. The contract provides for bi-weekly trips during the winter months, December to April, and not less than one in ten days for the

is accounted for by the reduction in the naval establishments, and the fact that in 1920 the tourist just reviving and had not yet assumed pre-war

Head (1), Permanent Civil Population, as a basis the figures show an increase of 1,333 during the

the white population numbered 6,691, the for 1921 the white population numbered 7,006, 1921.

death-rate was 31·2 per 1,000 (25·7 among the white and the coloured population). The death-rate was 19·46, being 15·55 for the white and 19·46 for the coloured population. The infant mortality was 13·4 per cent. of the total number of deaths occurring during the first three months of the year. The number of still-births gives a percentage of 1·4 per cent. of the total number of living-births.

There were 14·6 per cent. of the total number of births numbered 14·6 per cent. of the total and 13·5 for coloured population).

There were 160 marriages recorded, or 7·94 per 1,000. The rate was practically the same among both white and coloured population. The average age at marriage was for males 22·5 and for spinsters 22·5.

Public Health.—Climate.

The Public Health Act, 1920, was put into force on 1st January when Dr. Eugene Walker assumed duties as Medical Officer of Health. This Act, taken in conjunction with The Pest Act, 1921, which came into force on 15th June, 1921, provided the machinery necessary for the more scientific and systematic treatment of the many sanitary and other cognate problems connected with the preservation of the public health. The general health of the community was excellent, and the activities of the Medical Officer of Health and his inspectors were chiefly directed towards improving the general sanitary conditions of the island, and in obtaining public opinion to the necessity of taking measures to prevent the spread of the fly and mosquito nuisance which is an ever-present complaint during the summer months.

There were no tropical diseases other than an occasional mild case of dengue. Malarial fever is unknown. In the summer months there was a sporadic but mild type of fever which was common in all resulting in three deaths. There was no severe epidemic of measles and whooping-cough. There were 28 deaths from tuberculosis,

most of the houses have a good water-supply, and a rain-water cistern, and typhoid infection is not common through an infected water-supply. The main source of infection is from flies and the inadequate ventilation prevail in many of the poorer houses.

remainder. The steamers "Fort Hamilton" (5,530 tons) and "Fort Victoria" (7,784 tons) are well equipped, and maintain a speed of 15 to 16 knots during the winter, making the trip usually in under 48 hours from dock to dock. They offer ample refrigerated space, and more general cargo space than can be utilized.

46. The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line continued to give a fortnightly service of exemplary regularity with Halifax and the West Indies. Imports from Canada by these vessels continue to increase, and there is a growing demand for passenger accommodation, which exceeds the supply for a large part of the year. The provisions of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, 1920, which was signed by the Bermuda delegates but was not ratified by the Legislature, provide for an extension of this service affording weekly trips to Bermuda and the larger West Indian Colonies, and an improved type of vessel. The proportion of subsidy allotted to Bermuda was £2,000 per annum. At present the line is subsidized by the Canadian Government only. If a service from Jamaica to the United Kingdom which passes by Bermuda could be so arranged as to meet at Bermuda the ships of the projected improved Canada-West Indies service for the transfer of passengers, a considerable development of the passenger trade might result, and an excellent alternative route between the West Indies and the United Kingdom would be afforded. Moreover, communication between Jamaica and the other West Indies would be made possible without proceeding to northern ports to change steamers.

Communication with United Kingdom.

47. Freighters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, operated by Henry Langridge & Sons, have lately been calling at Bermuda every month or six weeks on their way from United Kingdom ports to Havana. This is a most useful service to local importers, and, if regularity of sailing can be assured, should be increasingly patronized.

48. There is no direct service to the United Kingdom, but occasional freighters, some fitted with accommodation for a few passengers, have called. Though Bermuda does not provide sufficient traffic to be the terminus of a direct service, a service calling at Bermuda on its way to England would book a much larger number of passengers than the size of the Colony would indicate. Regularity of sailing, however, is essential.

Inland.

49. There are over 100 miles of good driving roads in the Colony, the road surface being on the whole excellent, though the gradients are severe in some places. The main islands are connected with each other by bridges, and in the case of

St. George's Island by a causeway. Steam ferry-boats are used between Hamilton and the western portions of the Islands. Motor vehicles are not allowed, having been prohibited by law in 1908. The delay incurred in travelling between Hamilton and St. George's is a source of inconvenience to many, and several attempts have been made to repeal the laws prohibiting the use of motors or to provide for a limited service of public omnibuses, but so far without success. It is claimed with a good deal of force by those opposed to their use that the island roads are too narrow and winding for fast traffic, and that the surface, while sufficient for horse-drawn vehicles, would soon deteriorate under use by fast motor vehicles. The dust nuisance in so thickly populated an area is also a serious consideration. It is stated, moreover, on behalf of the tourists who visit the islands in large numbers that the absence of motors is one of their chief attractions.

Telegraph and Telephone.

50. The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to **Halifax**, and the Direct West India Company a line to **Jamaica** *viâ* **Turks Islands**. Telegraphic communication with the West Indies has been subject to frequent interruptions. The rate to the United Kingdom is 2s. 6d. a word.

51. The Naval Wireless Station takes messages for ships at sea, and also for Canada and beyond *viâ* **Barrington Passage**. It is also used for civil traffic to the West Indies during cable interruption, but wireless telegraphy has not proved altogether satisfactory in communicating with the West Indies.

52. There is a local telephone company whose lines extend throughout the Islands.

Post Office.

53. There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the Islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from **Hamilton** and **Ireland Island** are now provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade and not by the Postal Department as formerly. The amount of business transacted by all departments of the Post Office in 1921 was considerably in excess of that of former years, and furnished striking testimony to the marked increase both in the tourist and general trade of the Colony which prevailed.

The total Revenue for the year was ...	£24,262 11 8
The total Expenditure for the year was	9,164 2 10

Showing an excess of Receipts over	
Expenditure of	£15,098 8 10

54. The revenue for the year showed an increase of £5,761 4s. 5d. in comparison with 1920; expenditure an increase of £647 17s. 3d. The financial results for the year were therefore most satisfactory, the amount of the excess of receipts over expenditure being £5,113 7s. 2d. more than in the previous year. The above increase was due principally to the sale of stamps, which amounted to £6,125 15s. 8d. in excess of the figures for 1920. This increase was largely realized from the sale of 5s. stamps required for the Stamp Tax now placed on all passenger tickets. This tax has now been raised to 10s., and further increases may therefore be looked for in 1922.

55. The work in the Parcels Post Branch was also steadily on the increase; the number of parcels received exceeded the number received in the year 1920 by 9,928, and the number despatched by 1,800. The greatest increases were in the traffic with the United States, parcels received showing an increase of 6,797, and parcels despatched an increase of 1,111 over the figures for last year. In view of the great excess of parcels received over those despatched, and the consequent labour and expense involved in dealing with them, negotiations are proceeding with the United States Postmaster-General with a view to the ratification of an agreement whereby one gold franc should be paid in respect of each parcel received from the United States in excess of those despatched to that country.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS: PUBLIC HEALTH: GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Vital Statistics.

56. The total population, according to the census held in April, 1921, was 22,505, made up as follows:—

(1) Permanent civil population	...	...	...	20,127
(2) Hotel floating do.	...	...	...	842
(3) Naval Establishment	...	...	...	541
(4) Military do.	...	...	...	995
Grand Total	...	...	...	22,505

These figures show a slight increase over the figure of 21,987 estimated as the total civil population for 1920, but a decrease if the numbers shown under heads (2), (3), and (4) be excluded.

57. The corresponding figures for the census of 1911 were:—

(1) Permanent Civil Population	...	...	...	18,994
(2) Hotel floating do.	...	...	...	2,163
(3) Naval Establishment	...	...	...	759
(4) Military „	...	...	...	1,893
Grand Total	...	...	...	23,839

This decrease is accounted for by the reduction in the naval and military establishments, and the fact that in 1920 the tourist trade was only just reviving and had not yet assumed pre-war dimensions.

58. Taking Head (1), Permanent Civil Population, as a basis of comparison, the figures show an increase of 1,333 during the ten years.

59. For 1911 the white population numbered 6,691, the coloured 12,303; for 1921 the white population numbered 7,006, the coloured 13,121.

60. The birth-rate was 31·2 per 1,000 (25·7 among the white and 34·2 among the coloured population). The death-rate was 18·37 per 1,000, being 15·55 for the white and 19·46 for the coloured population. The infant mortality was 13·4 per cent. of living-births, one-third of the deaths occurring during the first months after birth. The number of still-births gives a percentage of 6·6 per 100 living-births.

61. Illegitimate births numbered 14·6 per cent. of the total (7·1 for white and 13·5 for coloured population).

62. There were 160 marriages recorded, or 7·94 per 1,000. The marriage-rate was practically the same among both white and coloured population. The average age at marriage was for bachelors 28, and for spinsters 22·5.

Public Health.—Climate.

63. The Public Health Act, 1920, was put into force on 1st March, 1921, when Dr. Eugene Walker assumed duties as Medical Officer of Health. This Act, taken in conjunction with The Pest Destruction Act, 1921, which came into force on 15th June, 1921, sets up all the machinery necessary for the more scientific and efficient handling of the many sanitary and other cognate problems connected with the preservation of the public health. The general health of the community was excellent, and the activities of the Medical Officer of Health and his inspectors were chiefly directed to an endeavour to improve the general sanitary conditions of the Colony, and to awaken public opinion to the necessity of taking active steps to combat the fly and mosquito nuisance which is an annual source of complaint during the summer months.

64. There are no tropical diseases other than an occasional mild type of fever diagnosed as dengue. Malarial fever is unknown. During the summer months there was a sporadic but mild type of typhoid fever, 54 cases in all resulting in three deaths. There was also a somewhat severe epidemic of measles and whooping-cough during the year. There were 28 deaths from tuberculosis, six less than in 1920.

65. The great majority of houses have a good water-supply, each house having its own rain-water cistern, and typhoid infection is therefore rarely spread through an infected water-supply. The most serious source of infection is from flies and the inadequate sanitary conveniences which prevail in many of the poorer houses.

66. A start was also made in the campaign against mosquitoes. Persons on whose premises mosquitoes were found breeding were warned, and in a few cases prosecuted for breach of the by-laws. Some 800 gold-fish and 1,200 mullets were also put into water-tanks to destroy mosquito larvæ. For the work to be really effective, however, a much larger sum of money must be provided annually for the draining of marshes, etc., and the public aroused to a more personal sense of responsibility in the matter.

67. The winter was a particularly dry one, and for a time the serious shortage in the tank-water caused considerable anxiety, but some timely showers relieved the situation before the shortage had become acute.

68. A hurricane broke over the Island on 15th September, 1921, inflicting considerable damage to property. The equable nature of the climate generally is most agreeable, and is no doubt mainly responsible for the satisfactory state of the public health.

69. Typical meteorological data for 1921 were:—

Mean Temperature:—

January	...	...	...	...	67·5
April	...	...	...	...	67·5
July	...	...	...	...	77·9
November	...	...	...	...	70·9
Highest Temperature	...	...	...	...	90·2 (September 10th).
Lowest Temperature	...	...	...	...	45·8 (January 20th).
Mean Relative Humidity	...	...	...	...	76 per cent.
Number of Days' Rain	...	...	...	...	140
Total Rainfall	...	...	...	...	54·43 inches.
Average Rainfall, 10 years	...	...	...	...	55·83 „

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

70. The high cost of living continues here, as elsewhere, to be the most serious factor in the general life of the Colony. Bermuda has never in recent times been a cheap place, and it is now decidedly an expensive one. The price of commodities is much affected by the unfavourable rate for sterling exchange, as nearly all food supplies are imported from the United States of America and Canada. Wages have advanced considerably, but not on the whole as much as living costs, and in many classes there has been a lowering of the standard of living. It is still, however, good compared with other places of a similar character. Wages for artisans run from about 12s. to 16s. a day, with higher rates for specially skilled men.

71. There has been a shortage of housing accommodation, as building was almost at a standstill during the latter part of the War, and is being only gradually resumed owing to the high cost of materials and shortage of labour. There has been a considerable demand for houses and cottages by visitors during the winter season which has made further inroads on the available accommodation and resulted in a sharp rise in rents, especially among the better-class houses. The revival of the tourist trade and the demand for residences has also brought about a rise in the value of land in the central portion of the Islands.

72. The revival of trade and resumption of public and other works revealed a marked shortage of labour in all directions. This is enhanced by the emigration of considerable numbers of the labouring class to the United States, attracted by the prevailing high wages. Between 425 and 450 passports were issued to labourers, artisans, and domestic servants leaving the Colony. A proportion of these return, and many more, finding conditions in a northern climate not to their liking, would probably do so if they had the means. The withdrawal of this number of persons from labour in so small a community soon makes itself felt, and has been a genuine obstacle to the progress of many works. The shortage among domestic servants has been especially marked. The "seasonal" character of many employments in connection with the tourist trade is also an unsettling factor.

73. There is a good deal of juvenile crime in the Colony, and unfortunately it has not yet been possible to provide a reformatory or industrial school, so that magistrates dealing with such cases are placed in the dilemma of awarding ineffective penalties or sending juvenile offenders to the common prisons—a most objectionable alternative. The prevalence of juvenile crime is in many cases due to the indifference or neglect of parents or guardians. Better educational facilities might improve matters, but it is very difficult to ensure the attendance of small vagrants whose natural guardians are indifferent to, or even ignorant of, their whereabouts and means of livelihood.

74. Education is compulsory up to the age of thirteen, but there are no Government schools, the system being carried out by subsidizing private schools which reach the required standard. Parents, therefore, are at liberty to choose which school their children attend. School fees for indigent children are paid by the Government. The system has certain advantages, but tends to produce too large a number of small schools, which increases the difficulty of inspection and of enforcing attendance. There were thirty schools in 1921 receiving Government grants with a total of 2,731 children on the rolls.

75. The social condition of the coloured population is greatly superior to the average in most colonies of a similar character, as will be readily apparent to any observer who notes their neat, substantial dwellings and general orderly behaviour. There are very few paupers. The poor laws are administered by the Parish Vestries, who maintain paupers by outdoor relief and in the poor-houses. A proposal is under consideration to establish a central poor-house for seven of the nine parishes.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1133.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1921-22.

(For Report for 1920-21 see No. 1083.)



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No. 1133.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921-22.*

I.—HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL.

Proclamation of British Protectorate.—During the year 1885 Sir Charles Warren, who was in command of an expedition dispatched from England to pacify Southern Bechuanaland, where for some time previously hostilities had been proceeding between the Bechuana and Boers from the South African Republic, visited the principal Chiefs in Northern Bechuanaland (known as the Bechuanaland Protectorate), namely, Khama, Gaseitsiwe, and Sebele; and as a result a British Protectorate was proclaimed over their territories. No further steps were taken until the year 1891, when, by an Order-in-Council, dated 9th May, the limits of the Bechuanaland Protectorate were more clearly defined, and the High Commissioner for South Africa was authorised to appoint such officers as might appear to him to be necessary to provide for the administration of justice, the raising of revenue, and generally for the peace, order, and good government of all persons within the limits of the Order. Sir Sydney Shippard, the Administrator of Bechuanaland, was appointed Resident Commissioner. An Assistant Commissioner was also appointed for the Southern Protectorate and another for the Northern Protectorate, the laws in force in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope on the 10th day of June, 1891, being declared in force in the territory, *mutatis mutandis*, and so far as not inapplicable. Subsequent legislation has been effected by proclamation of the High Commissioner.

Relations with the British South Africa Company.—For fiscal and other purposes the Protectorate was treated as a portion of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland until 15th November, 1895, when the latter was annexed to the Cape Colony. In the autumn of that year arrangements were made for the transfer of the administration of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, with the exception of certain reserves for native chiefs, to the British South Africa Company. The country occupied by the Bamalete tribe, and so much of the Bora-Tshidi Barolong country as lies within the limits of the Protectorate, were transferred to the Administration of the British South Africa Company; Dr. L. S. Jameson being appointed Resident Commissioner therefor. The Company's police were moved down to a camp in the Protectorate, at Pitsane Potlugo. From that spot, on 29th December, Dr. Jameson

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 857; [Cd. 7622-48].

crossed the border of the South African Republic with his police, and marched towards Johannesburg, which was at that time in a state of great unrest. Being defeated by the Boers at Doornkop, he surrendered on 2nd January, 1896. In consequence of this raid, the administration of the two areas above referred to was retransferred to the Imperial Government, by whom the Protectorate, in its entirety, is still governed under the name of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. It includes the Tati District, which is a portion of old Matabeleland, conceded in 1887 by Lobengula to Mr. S. H. Edwards.

Proclamation of Crown Lands.—In 1895 the Chiefs Khama, Sebele, and Bathoen visited England, and each of them abandoned all rights and jurisdiction in and over certain portion of his former territory. The lands thus abandoned by them were, by Order-in-Council dated 16th day of May, 1904, declared Crown Lands, and all rights of His Majesty in or in relation thereto were vested in the High Commissioner for South Africa, who was empowered to make grants or leases of such land on such terms and conditions as he might think fit, subject to any directions received from one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State. Title to these lands was subsequently granted to the British South Africa Company, subject to certain reservations, and these lands are now known as the Tuli, Gaberones, and Lobatsi Blocks of farms.

By virtue of the Order-in-Council, dated 10th January, 1910, all other land situate within the limits of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, elsewhere than in the Tati District, was, and still is, vested in His Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa, subject to all the provisions of the Order-in-Council of 16th May, 1904, and to the following exceptions:—

- (1) Such land as is either:—
 - (a) included in any native reserve duly set apart by Proclamation; or
 - (b) the subject of any grant duly made by or on behalf of His Majesty; and
- (2) The forty-one farms known as "The Barolong Farms," held by members of the Barolong tribe by virtue of certificates of occupation issued by the Chief Montsioa on 28th day of March, 1895.

Later Developments.—During the period 1896–97, the existing railway line connecting the Union of South Africa with Rhodesia was constructed by the Bechuanaland Railway Company, authorized thereto by High Commissioner's proclamations.

In 1898 a limited number of farms were allotted at and in the neighbourhood of Ghanzi, in the Ngamiland District of the territory, to settlers, some of whom had trekked thereto, as prospectors, in 1894.

In 1899 the boundaries of the Bamangwato, Batawana, Bakgatla and Bangwaketse native tribes were established and defined by proclamation, and in 1909 the boundaries of the Bamalete Native Reserve were similarly fixed.

In 1911 the Tati Concessions, Limited, and its successors and assigns, were confirmed by Proclamation No. 2 of 1911 in the full, free, and undisturbed possession as owners of all the land within the Tati District, subject to all the terms and conditions of the said Proclamation, certain lands being assigned as a reserve for the occupation of natives. This reserve is under the control of the Government. The natives residing within it hold and occupy the land included therein, subject to such rules and regulations as are from time to time proclaimed by the High Commissioner; and subject to certain conditions safeguarding the interests of the natives, the Company (now the Tati Company, Limited) retains the mining rights (including precious stones) over this native reserve.

Boundaries.—The territory of the Bechuanaland Protectorate is bounded on the south and east by the Union of South Africa, on the north-east by Southern Rhodesia, on the north by the Zambesi and Chobe (Linyanti) Rivers, on the west by the territory of South-West Africa.

It has not been surveyed as a whole, but its area is estimated at 275,000 square miles. Its mean altitude is about 3,300 feet.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CENSUS.

In May, 1921, a census was taken throughout South Africa, including the Bechuanaland Protectorate. A census had previously been taken in the years 1904 and 1911, and for purposes of comparison a table is given showing the three periods.

	1904.	1911.	1921.
Europeans ...	1,004	1,692	1,743
Asiatics ...	361	355	52
Coloured persons } ...			1,003
Natives ...	119,411	123,303	150,185
Cattle ...	139,071	323,911	495,062
Sheep } ...	319,223	358,336	132,454
Goats } ...			247,971
Horses and mules ...	1,016	1,632	2,757
Donkeys ...	1,102	2,590	8,484
Wagons ...	1,375	2,196	2,680
Ploughs ...	—	9,169	11,043

The Europeans show a very slight increase between 1911 and 1921, no doubt due in a great measure to the years of drought with which the settlers had to contend, viz., 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14, 1915-16, and the retarded settlement during the War.

The average annual increase of the native population for the ten years is approximately 2 per cent.

CATTLE.

Cattle show an average annual increase of approximately 4 per cent. The stock-carrying capacity of the Protectorate, except perhaps in the Ngamiland District, is limited by its watering places, and the waters available during the dry seasons are fully stocked.

Provided water could be found, the grazing in the rest of the country would support about ten times the number of cattle, as even the so-called desert of the Kalahari has excellent grazing.

LOCUSTS.

During the middle of January a report was received from the Union that there was an exceptionally severe visitation of brown locusts, at that time confined to a certain part of the Cape Province (chiefly the Karoo) and a part of the Orange Free State, and at the end of January swarms of locusts crossed the border into the Bechuanaland Protectorate between Pitsani Molopo and Ramathlabama, flying in a north-westerly direction; from that time on until the end of the year (31st March) locusts appeared in most parts of the Southern Protectorate.

Towards the end of February and during March onwards, swarms of Voetgangers, or Hoppers, hatched out on the Baralong Farms and along the Molopo River and were destroyed by means of spray-pumps and poison. A great many flying locusts were also destroyed by burning the veld, but owing to lack of water and the general nature of the country it was not possible to do anything in the Kalahari towards destroying these insects.

CAPRIVI ZIPFEL.

The Caprivi Zipfel, formerly a part of German South-West Africa, was added to the Bechuanaland Protectorate for administrative purposes.

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S VISIT.

His Royal Highness the High Commissioner passed through the Protectorate in August on his way to Rhodesia, and interviewed the principal Chiefs of the Southern Protectorate at Gaberone and Chief Khama at Magalapye.

III.—FINANCIAL.

The estimated revenue for the year was £95,250; the actual amount collected was £84,982, or £10,268 less than the estimate.

The decrease was due mainly to the falling off in receipts under the following heads:—Customs, Hut Tax, Licences, Export Duty on Cattle, and Cattle Tax.

The estimated amount of Customs Duty was £22,000; the actual yield was £17,940 13s. 0d., as against £27,819 1s. 3d.

1920-21; this is due to the decrease in the total Customs Revenue of the Union of South Africa, of which the Protectorate receives 27622 per cent.

The estimated amount of Hut Tax was £41,000, the actual yield was £36,212, as against £38,446 in 1920-21. The decrease under this head was due to the poor prices obtainable for native cattle, on which the native largely depends for the payment of his tax, together with the general depression over the country, and the drought. All these circumstances impoverish the native and make it difficult for him to pay the tax.

Licences, Export Duty on Cattle, and Cattle Tax realised £1,826, £1,250, and £955 less than the estimate, respectively, and under Sales of Government Property, Rentals and Transfer Duty, and Judicial Fines there was a shortage of £100, £57, and £34 respectively, on the estimated amounts.

As against this there was an increase under the head Posts, the estimated amount of which was £7,650, the actual yield being £10,155 5s. 5d.; and under Revenue Stamps and Miscellaneous the increases were £518 and £268 respectively.

The estimated expenditure was £95,014, and the actual expenditure amounted to £89,597 10s. 0d., or £5,416 10s. 0d. less than the estimate. It exceeded the revenue by £4,616.

The following figures show the Revenue and Expenditure for the last three years:—

		1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
Revenue	...	£81,564	£101,765	£84,982
Expenditure	...	91,611	112,091	89,598

IV.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

The general depression in trade continued through the financial year, both the traders and farmers feeling it acutely. The traders in a great many cases were overstocked in goods, and have resorted to the system of only purchasing the native stock and produce provided the native will accept half the purchase price in goods and half in cash; this often makes it difficult for the latter to raise the sum required for his annual tax. The prices obtained for slaughter oxen at the Johannesburg abattoir have generally been poor. The trader, who is the main exporter, pays from about £2 to £2 10s. in expenses to get each animal transported there and sold, and allowing for his own profit he is not in a position to offer the native producer a large sum for his oxen. As a rule, the native-bred slaughter ox is of the class known as "compound," i.e., the meat is supplied to the native labourers in the mine compounds. Its value is consequently small, and what happens in a great many cases is that the native prefers not to sell at the price offered, and the export has consequently fallen off considerably.

Although farmers received as much as 3s. 6d. and even 4s.

per lb. for their butter-fat in 1920, the price was much lower at the commencement of the financial year, and for three or four months prior to 31st March, 1922, the creameries offered only 6d. to 8d. per lb., the value of this commodity being ruled to a large extent by the price received for it in the home markets, which at that time were over-supplied. In other ways the dairy farmers did better with their cheese, bacon and eggs.

The crops of mealies and kaffir corn reaped during the earlier part of the year under review were a success, and there was a prospect of good crops for the reaping season 1922-23 in view of the excellent rains in October, November and December; but during January and February there was a drought, when it became evident that there would be a shortage of grain in 1922-23. This had the effect of sending the cost of the principal native food up to more than double the usual price.

Mining operations were carried on in the Tati District only, where eleven small properties were worked during the year, the output of gold and silver being 4,643 ounces of fine gold, and 706 ounces of fine silver, value £19,556 13s. 7d.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-nine Proclamations were promulgated during the year. Ten of these dealt with matters arising out of the War, three relate to the appropriation of funds to meet expenditure, and two affect Customs, amending the tariff and imposing duties on tobacco, respectively. Other Proclamations provided for:—The retirement of members of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police at the age of 50 instead of 60, the rate at which the pensions are to be calculated being one-fiftieth instead of one-sixtieth. Controlling the purchase of land in the Bechuanaland Protectorate by native tribes and for securing for the benefit of such tribes any land acquired by them. Regulating the manufacture, possession, or sale of Kaffir Beer by natives in certain areas. The enforcement of Maintenance Orders made in England and Ireland, and *vice versâ*. The punishment of Juvenile and Juvenile Adult Offenders by ordering their detention in reformatories and removal to the Union for this purpose. The alteration of the fixed duty payable for a dealer's licence to one based on the aggregate annual sales. The reciprocal enforcement of Judgments and Awards in the United Kingdom and the territory of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Allowing Landowners and Leaseholders to kill large game free of charge on land owned or leased by them. Raising the duty on Travelling Traders (Hawkers) from £1 per mensem to £5 for three months. The administration of the Caprivi Zipfel as if it were a portion of the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

There were four other Proclamations, making small amendments to previous ones.

There has been no session of the Special Court since 15th May, 1922.

VI.—EDUCATION.

Owing to illness, the Inspector of Schools was unable to visit the Protectorate during the year.

There were ten schools for Europeans carried on, including a farm school at Ramaquabane, attended by 147 children; one coloured school with an attendance of nine; and sixty-five native schools attended by approximately 5,610 children.

The schools for European and coloured children and the native school at Tlhareselele received Government grants-in-aid. The amount provided for this purpose for the year under review was £1,600, of which £1,054 was actually spent.

The native schools were supported from the native fund, from which the sum of £2,950 was spent on education and the upkeep of the school buildings, £150 going to the native institution at Tiger Kloof for the training of teachers.

A European school was opened at Tsessebe during the year and is progressing favourably.

VII.—MEDICAL.

The staff of medical officers has been increased by one, and now consists of the Principal Medical Officer, assisted by medical officers at Gaberones, Francistown and Serowe.

The year ended 31st March, 1922, may be said to have been a mild one as to the extent and prevalence of endemic and general diseases throughout the Protectorate.

Of the chief endemic disease, malaria, no special outbreaks, or undue severity of type, fall to be recorded. This may have been, in part, due to the drought of last year, which, for some reason, coincided throughout with good living conditions.

An outbreak of whooping-cough, affecting a large proportion of the infant and adolescent population, and accompanied by a high mortality, occurred among the Barolong at Matsiloye, Northern Protectorate, last August.

This year (1921-22) again shows an increase in the returns of diseases and treatments, as compared with previous years, owing to the continued extension of the medical service, which now provides for all the accessible portions of the territory comprised within the magistracies of Gaberones, Molepolole, Serowe, Francistown and Kanye.

A special feature of this extension has been the establishment of dispensaries for the free treatment of venereal diseases. Although the completion of the arrangements fell upon an unfavourable season, when the native population was scattered about the lands, waiting for the rains which never fell, and later moving cattle to fresh and remote grazing and water sources, 214 cases were brought under observation and systematic treatment; of these 190 were syphilitic.

Constant educative effort, investigation over a long period, and extension of the facilities already provided are necessary to combat these diseases, but the task of bringing them within even measurable distance of control, over so wide a field, and where long distances, immemorial customs, ignorance and superstition tend to retard the work and obscure its issues, necessarily requires time and patience.

The number of patients treated in the Protectorate Hospitals was 11 Europeans and 66 natives, whilst those receiving outdoor treatment numbered 10 Europeans and 600 natives, a total of 687; making a total number of treatments for the year of 3,075, or a daily average of 8·41.

Out of the total number of 687 cases treated, 13 died, making a death-rate of 1·88 per cent.

VIII.—VETERINARY.

The staff of this Department remains much the same as it was last year.

Contagious Pleuro-Pneumonia among Bovines (Lung Sickness).

Government Veterinary Officer Hill, stationed at Palapye Road, was released from other veterinary work, and devoted his whole time to dealing with this disease.

The following is a summary of the work done:—

30 fresh outbreaks of the disease occurred during the year, and were dealt with by this department.

22,480 animals were quarantined.

23,097 animals were inoculated.

444 animals were destroyed in terms of Proclamation No. 2 of 1909.

267 animals died from the effects of inoculation.

£184 17s. 10d. was paid in compensation for animals killed when affected.

The southern portion of the Bamangwato Reserve, which includes the Shoshong and Mahalapye Districts, remained entirely free from the disease until the end of March, when two cases occurred on the border of that and the Serowe District.

The worst area has been the Sofala District, about which Mr. Hill reports:—

“The people there (Sofala) have till lately been careless about the reporting of the existence of the disease, till it has obtained a serious hold in their herds, with the consequence that there has been an undue number of lungers in the district. The people, too, have till lately been very loth to give assistance, and in some parts were constantly moving or losing their cattle when wanted for inoculation. I consider the position there is now greatly improved.”

The Rakops area remains the same, and is so far removed from the other centres that Mr. Hill has not been able to give it that supervision he would have wished.

The Macloutsie, Siphopi, and Serowe Districts show considerable improvement.

Inoculation.—A 20 per cent. admixture of glycerine with filtered thoracic fluid has been used throughout the year, and has enabled us to keep virus in good condition up to a month and so be able to issue a continuous supply.

Although for various reasons, generally neglect, the mortality from inoculation reached 6 per cent. or more, the average loss from this cause during the year works out at only 1 per cent.

Export of Cattle.—The following cattle were exported from the Protectorate during the period under review :—

By rail to approved Abattoirs	...	...	...	16,877
Through Ramathlabama Quarantine Camp	...	...	...	2,638
Through Sequani Quarantine Camp	...	...	...	2,469
Through Kazungula Quarantine Camp	...	...	...	3,900
Total	...	...	...	<u>25,884</u>

This total is 6,566 less than last year, and is entirely due to the fall in the price of cattle.

Export of Small Stock.—1,010 sheep and 1,885 goats were exported to the Union via Ramathlabama, and some were railed to Rhodesia.

Vaccines.—The following vaccines for the control of animal disease were obtained and forwarded for use in the Protectorate :—

Anthrax vaccine	...	...	...	7,680 doses.
Quarter Evil	...	...	...	11,520 „
Blue Tongue	...	...	...	336 „
Redwater and Gall Sick	...	...	...	3 „
Horse-sickness serum	...	...	...	4 litres.
Wire-worm remedy	...	...	...	1,072 doses.

Permits for the under-mentioned animals to enter the Protectorate were issued during the year ended 31st March, 1922 :—

Horses	...	...	...	1,690
Donkeys	...	...	...	1,780
Mules	...	...	...	74
Cattle	...	...	...	843
Small stock	...	...	...	530
Pigs	...	...	...	30

IX.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The number of criminal cases adjudicated upon by officials of the Administration during the year 1921-22 was 410, as against 434 in 1920-21 and 485 in 1919-20.

There were 13 cases of culpable homicide. Two were convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment; 9 were committed

for trial on a charge of murder. Of these, 3 were acquitted, 1 sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour, and 1 sentenced to death, which sentence was commuted to five years' imprisonment with hard labour. Four have not yet been tried.

There were also 31 cases of theft of stock, in 22 of which conviction followed as against 28 convictions in the previous year; 78 offences against property (other than stock theft), in 70 of which conviction followed; 82 offences against the person (other than homicide), with 74 convictions; 479 prosecutions for other offences, in which 242 convictions followed.

Except in the case of homicide, the native chiefs exercise jurisdiction where members of their tribes are solely concerned, and no record is kept of such cases.

X.—POSTAL STATISTICS.

The administration and control of the postal service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate are, subject to the authority of the Resident Commissioner, vested in the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa.

Offices.—There were nineteen offices in operation during the year ended on 31st March, 1922, an increase of four during the year. Three of these are Money Order and Savings Bank Offices, five Post and Telegraph Offices, and the remainder Postal Agencies. Of the new Agencies, three were established in remote districts of the territory, viz., Maun, Kasane and Ghanzi, and an increased postal service has been inaugurated enabling these places to get two posts every month instead of one as formerly.

Money Orders.—The value of the Money Order transactions for the year shows an increase of approximately 66 per cent. in value of issues over the amount for the preceding year. 661 orders were issued of the value of £6,063 0s. 5d., as against 337 valued at £3,655 12s. 3d., and money orders paid show an increase of approximately 50 per cent. 384 orders valued at £1,957 13s. 2d. were paid out as against 177 valued at £1,304 0s. 7d. in the year before.

Postal Orders.—There is a falling-off under this heading from the figures of the preceding year. 9,979 orders were issued valued at £4,492 12s. 5d., and 3,176 were paid out with a value of £1,809 7s. 6d.; and the figures for the year before were issues 10,839 valued at £5,077 18s. 1d., and out-payments 3,154 with a total value of £2,270 11s. 7d.

Savings Bank.—There was a falling-off also under this heading as compared with the previous year, due, no doubt, to the depression which has made itself felt throughout the country generally. 118 deposits were made valued at £1,145 12s. 5d.,

as against 200 valued at £1,755 4s. 0d. in the preceding year; and 49 withdrawals valued at £1,049 17s. 6d., as against 52 valued at £1,496 4s. 4d.

Revenue and Expenditure.—The total Postal Revenue from all sources amounted to £10,155 5s. 5d., being an increase of £535 14s. 4d. over the revenue collected during the corresponding period of 1920-21; and the expenditure for the year under review amounted to £4,705 11s. 6d., or an increase of £446 10s. 11d. over the expenditure for 1920-21.

XI.—METEOROLOGICAL.

The year covered by the Report does not correspond with the season's rainfall, and it is therefore proposed in future to give the figures for the past rainy season as well as those for the year ending 31st March, taking the season to be from 1st June in one year to 31st May in the next.

The average aggregate monthly rainfall for all Stations for the season ended 31st May, 1921, is as follows:—

1920.—June	—	} <i>Total.</i>
July	...	...	...	...	—
August	...	...	...	...	—
September	...	...	...	...	186
October	...	...	...	...	1370
November	...	...	...	...	295
December	...	...	...	...	2940
1921.—January	4325	} 24785
February	...	...	...	...	6500
March	...	...	...	...	7918
April	...	...	...	...	356
May	...	...	...	...	895

and for the year ended 31st March, 1922:—

1921.—April	356	} <i>Total.</i>
May	...	...	...	...	895
June	...	...	...	...	—
July	...	...	...	...	—
August	...	...	...	...	—
September	...	...	...	...	001
October	...	...	...	...	1365
November	...	...	...	...	4370
December	...	...	...	...	3663
1922.—January	...	...	...	...	2306
February	2645	} 17101
March	...	...	...	...	1500

It will be seen that the rainfall for the season 1920-21 was above the average and ample to secure good crops. The figures for January and February, 1922, were low, and there was a drought during those two months in most of the grain-growing districts, resulting in a very poor yield of grain.

The monthly average maximum and minimum temperature at the various Magistracies throughout the year were as follows:—

				Max.	Min.
1921	April	..	..	80·97	56·17
„	May	..	..	77·41	49·03
„	June	..	..	77·93	41·68
„	July	..	..	72·39	36·66
„	August	..	..	80·01	43·11
„	September	..	..	83·79	51·30
„	October	..	..	91·30	61·59
„	November	..	..	87·67	62·40
„	December	..	..	87·20	61·86
1922	January	..	..	93·25	65·59
„	February	..	..	89·01	63·15
„	March	..	..	88·45	61·92

The Bechuanaland Protectorate lies, roughly, between 2,000 and 5,000 feet above sea level, and only a few people live at the cooler altitudes of from 4,000 to 5,000 feet. The portion of the country inhabited by the greater number of both Europeans and natives is adjacent to the only line of railway, which passes through the eastern side of the Protectorate for a distance of 403 miles; the average altitude of the stations and sidings along this section of line is 3,418 feet.

R. M. DANIEL,

Acting Government Secretary.

31st March, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1099	New Hebrides	1920
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1134.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1921-22.

(For Report for 1920-21 see No. 1087.)



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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921-22.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ North, and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras; in climate, to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough, and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonize the Island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Hometown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Hometown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the government when the Commonwealth was established, though many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is certain that they must be imported not infrequently in vessels which in many cases lie in the "Careenage" or inner harbour for considerable periods, on arrival from places where they are prevalent. The conditions, however, are evidently unfavourable to their breeding ashore.

18. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May

the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable, and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

19. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

1. The year 1920-21 (1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921) is recorded in the annual general report for that year as "probably the most prosperous year ever known in Barbados," but the great "slump" in the sugar market which began in August, 1920, made it clear that a difficult time was to follow. The year 1921-22 can be described with equal accuracy as probably one of the most difficult which the Colony has experienced in recent times. The report which follows covers a time of unusual depression; details of its various aspects will be found throughout the different sections. The depression was, of course, not confined to Barbados, but the existence of depressed conditions elsewhere naturally aggravated the difficulties of the local situation.

2. The year was marked locally by a very scanty rainfall, a poor sugar crop, and unfavourable health conditions. Few places are so greatly dependent on the fluctuations of a single industry as Barbados. In 1921, of a total export of local produce and manufacture valued at £973,650, the value of sugar, molasses and rum was returned at £934,634. In 1920 the value of these exports was £3,521,901. These figures sufficiently indicate not only the severity of the depression from which the staple support of the island suffered, but also the very great fluctuations to which this industry is exposed. When to the failure in sugar is added a general slackness in trade affecting both the shipping and coaling trade of the Island and the considerable entrepôt and transit trade it can easily be realised that the strain on its resources was very great.

3. This condition was reflected in the Government finances. The year opened with a debit balance of £3,770, and closed with a debit balance of £65,401. The revenue from ordinary sources fell off by over £60,000, while the ordinary expenditure remained at the same level. The estimates compiled at the end of the previous year provided for an expenditure of £393,000 and a revenue of only £263,000, leaving a deficit of £130,000 to be met by taxation or special measures in a period of commercial

stagnation. Various circumstances, referred to in the financial section, combined to make the final result of the year's operations less unfavourable than the prospect shown in the estimates, but after the unexampled prosperity of the early portion of the preceding year the change was truly depressing.

4. In these circumstances, all effort had to be concentrated on economy, and various schemes in prospect were abandoned or postponed, notably the erection of a lighthouse at the north end of the Island, a long-felt want, enlargement of the Police Barracks, and the opening of additional accommodation at the Boys' Industrial School. On the other hand, the decline in the prices of commodities which occurred during the year, though considerable, was not sufficient or did not come early enough to allow of any marked decrease in the general costs of administration.

5. An Income Tax Law was passed in September, but could not be put into operation till the following year, when the assessment was made on the results of 1921 instead of on the large profits earned in 1920.

6. The sugar crop exported (36,000 tons) was the result of two years' continued dry weather, the rainfall for 1920, on which the results of the 1921 crop (reaped in February to June) mainly depend, having been only 42.55 inches, which was over 21 inches below the average of the preceding five years. As the crop was produced under exceptionally costly conditions, all preparations having taken place in a period of very high prices, and the price had fallen to about one-fourth of the record figures ruling in 1920, the losses of estates were very heavy. On 31st May, 1921, the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank returns showed that out of £538,302 loaned in 1920-21 to 154 owners, £462,107 was still outstanding. The financial results of the crop are by no means complete at this date, but the amount outstanding was quite unprecedented.

7. This position had naturally led to a severe restriction of credit on the part of the banks, which made the financing of the 1922 crop a difficult matter. Further details of the position will be found in the financial section. The difficulty was partly overcome but not removed, and as the outlook for the 1922 crop towards the end of 1921 was also singularly unpromising, proposals were made that the Government should come to the assistance of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank by guaranteeing advances to be made during the latter part of 1922 for the cultivation of the crop of 1923. The results of the 1922 crop, owing to late rains, proved more favourable than had at first been anticipated, but still involved losses to the very great majority of estates. Meanwhile, after considerable discussion and negotiation, proposals had been formulated by which the Government undertook to guarantee advances made to the Sugar Industry Bank for the purposes of the 1923 crop; on this condition the banks undertook

to advance up to £450,000 for this purpose. As, however, the guarantee was confined to loans made through the Sugar Bank to owners and others who were not in a position to secure funds by other means, it is probable that the amount required will not reach this figure.

8. This was an unusual measure, justified, however, by the imperative necessity of securing that estates shall in no circumstances be allowed to go out of cultivation. With a population of 940 persons to the square mile, the majority of whom are directly or indirectly dependent on the employment offered by sugar estates or in the handling of the sugar crop, the results of any serious interruption in the cultivation of estates can be easily realised.

9. The position has not been made easier by the fact that during the "boom" preceding the present period of "hard times" many estates changed hands at very high prices, and are now burdened with a capital outlay which present conditions are quite unable to support. The full consequences of this situation have not yet revealed themselves, but instances have occurred of purchases made at high prices during the boom being subsequently abandoned with the loss of large instalments of the purchase price.

10. The high cost of living referred to in the 1920 Report was mitigated to an appreciable extent during 1921, particularly in the latter part of the year. An estimate of the cost of a number of commodities in common use made early in 1922 showed a reduction in the average prices to about 80 per cent. over 1914 standards as compared with 220 per cent. in August, 1920. Naturally, in the conditions, existing wages also declined. It is very difficult to give an all-round figure which would convey a correct general idea of the decline owing to the great variations in rates for different classes of work and in different seasons. Perhaps an increase of from 25 to 50 per cent. over 1914 rates would give a rough idea of the present standard.

11. The depression in sugar leading to a serious situation in Cuba involved many Barbadians who had emigrated there during the prosperous period in acute distress, and numerous appeals for repatriation were received. A number were repatriated under the term of their contract, but many more remained without assistance in a very distressed situation.

12. Climatically, the year was remarkable for a continuance of the drought which had been a feature of 1920, and at one time the outlook for the crop to be reaped in 1922 was very bad. Late rains, however, improved the prospects, and the results, though far from good, were much better than was at one time expected. The average rainfall for the year throughout the Island was 40·72 inches, varying at different observation points from 32·52 inches to 56·20 inches in the high lands of St. Thomas. The heaviest fall was in October (7·10 inches). The maximum mean temperature for the year was 84·7°, and the minimum

72·8° F. The highest single observation was 88·7° in August, and the lowest 64·4° in January. The mean relative humidity was 63·4°.

13. In September a severe gale or "blow" was experienced which did some damage to smaller shipping and to the wharf frontage. Two schooners parted their moorings, one being driven ashore, and the other which was disembarking labourers from Cuba being blown out to sea with over 200 passengers still on board. After a distressing experience this vessel reached St. Lucia.

14. The scanty rainfall of the last few years has led to a serious diminution in the water supply, and it became necessary to restrict supplies strictly to domestic uses, all supplies for estate purposes, garden watering, street flushing, etc., being cut off. The wells from which the Government supply is drawn are fed by percolation through the coral rock to an impervious clay bed, and it is probable that the stored natural reserve within the radius of the Government pumping stations had begun to be exhausted during the dry cycle. It requires several months' good rain to replenish the underground storage, and it will take some time before the supply can return to its former abundance. A search is being carried out for fresh wells to augment the available supply. There is no reason to doubt that a plentiful supply of underground water is still available provided the most favourable points for tapping it can be ascertained. The purity of the water remained unimpaired.

15. The year was decidedly unfortunate from a health standpoint, as the heavy mortality shows. Enteric fever reached serious proportions, and outbreaks of dysentery were also recorded. The prevalence of these diseases cannot be connected with defects in water supply, but no doubt the dry conditions favouring dust and flies were an aggravating cause.

16. Though the record of 1921-22 reads as one of almost unrelieved depression, it would be entirely wrong to picture the Colony as being by any means in a desperate situation. In spite of the depressed conditions, there was no trace of social unsettlement—indeed, the criminal records for the year showed a marked decline in the number of offences—and the commercial stagnation was supported without serious failures. These facts are a very striking testimony to the commercial stability of the Island and the steadiness of the population in face of hard times; the reserves accumulated in the preceding period of prosperity also no doubt served to steady the position. The sugar crop, on which the Island depends, possesses remarkable recuperative powers, which the community as a whole appear to share. At the time of writing, the outlook is unquestionably more hopeful, and, given one or two reasonably favourable years, the Colony will undoubtedly weather the period of depression without permanent ill effects.

17. In January, 1922, the Colony received a visit from the Colonial Office Mission, headed by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State. Mr. Wood and his party visited many parts of the Island and were enabled to meet and gain first-hand knowledge of local conditions from members of the Legislature, the Chamber of Commerce, and parochial bodies. The opportunity was taken to set before the Mission the position of the sugar industry and the measures proposed for its support, which received most sympathetic consideration. The frank discussion of the situation with a representative of His Majesty's Government was of great value in shaping the measures ultimately determined upon. The questions of Imperial preference and of telegraphic communications and steamship freights were also discussed with the Chamber of Commerce.

18. Barbados had no political problems to lay before the Under-Secretary of State, but there can be no question that the opportunity of personal discussion with a representative of His Majesty's Government of the general economic position in the Island, as well as various problems of common interest to the West Indian Colonies, was very highly appreciated, and that visits such as this must have an invaluable influence in establishing mutual understanding and confidence between the Colony and the responsible Department of His Majesty's Government. It can be confidently asserted that the frequent repetition of such visits would be warmly welcomed by the entire community without a dissentient section. Even if no question of immediate practical importance awaits examination (which can very rarely be the case) their psychological value can scarcely be overstated.

III.—FINANCIAL.

(1) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

19. The revenue and expenditure for the last five years has been as follows:—

					<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
					£	£
1917-18	...	...	...	...	399,969	456,303
1918-19	...	...	...	...	347,497	347,817
1919-20	...	...	...	...	420,136	351,851
1920-21	...	...	...	...	454,286	508,391
1921-22	...	...	...	...	340,814	409,055

Receipts and expenditure of all descriptions, including loans and special expenditure, are included in the above figures. Thus in 1920-21 a local loan of £40,000 raised for certain public works is included on both sides of the account; in that year the expenditure was further swelled by a sum of £58,000, representing

the loss on sale of a large purchase of sugar made by the Government during the period of high prices to ensure an adequate supply for local use, which was sold after the fall in the market at a heavy loss.

20. The totals for 1921-22 more nearly represent the normal revenue and expenditure, but the receipts include a sum of £8,589 reimbursed from loan funds on account of expenditure chargeable to loans which had been temporarily met from the Treasury, and the expenditure, a sum of £10,590 disbursed on services ultimately chargeable to loans.

21. The collapse of the sugar market in August, 1920, naturally had an immediate and depressing effect on the financial position of the Government generally, in addition to the large actual loss involved in the sale of the sugar referred to above. The estimates for 1921-22 compiled in the face of this situation provided for a revenue of £263,482 and an expenditure of £393,883, and the year opened with a debit balance of £3,770. The actual results of the year's operations were less unfavourable than was foreshadowed by the estimates, owing in part to increases in taxation introduced with a view to strengthening the revenue.

22. The principal changes in taxation were the introduction in June, 1921, of the new preferential tariff provided for in the Canada-West Indies Agreement of 1920, under which the *ad valorem* duties were fixed at 10 per cent. for the preferential, and 20 per cent. for the ordinary rate. Excise duty on rum was raised to 5s. per gallon, tonnage dues were increased by 25 per cent., and certain licence fees also raised. The Income Tax Law which had been under consideration for a considerable time was finally passed in September, 1921, but no tax was collected during the year under report.

23. These changes were far from sufficient to balance the budget, and it was necessary to have recourse to temporary borrowings, arranged partly through the Government Savings Bank, from which £20,000 was advanced, and partly through the Colonial Bank on overdraft, by which £65,000 was obtained. At the end of the year there was an excess of liabilities over assets of £65,401, and a floating debt of £85,401. Arrangements have since been made for the liquidation of the debt of £65,000 due to the Colonial Bank by means of ten-year debentures at 6 per cent.

24. The position improved towards the end of the year, and the estimates for 1922-23 provide for a balance between revenue and expenditure including provision for all loan charges, so that no further recourse to borrowing for current expenditure should be necessary.

25. A statement of assets and liabilities on 31st March, 1922, is given below with explanatory notes.*

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
(1) Due to Colonial Bank on overdraft ...	65,365	0	4
To Savings Bank	20,000	0	0
Unpaid Vouchers on 31st March ...	2,917	11	2
Vouchers under Audit on 31st March ...	531	4	11
(2) Outstanding Liabilities on unexpended Votes for 1921-22	22,804	0	0
	111,617	16	5

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Surplus Fund Account	1,127	14	0½
(1) Authorized Advances	31,195	14	5
With Crown Agents	7,255	4	6
Bills and Remittances	679	1	8
In Treasury	720	10	0
(2) Police Tax Arrears	350	3	4
(2) Water Rates Arrears	2,684	7	10
Due Treasury from Loan Funds ...	2,203	4	8
Excess of Liabilities over Assets ...	65,401	15	11½
	111,617	16	5

* NOTES: *Liabilities.*

- (1) Provision has since been made to liquidate this by a debenture issue. (*Vide* paragraph 23.)
- (2) This is usually included in the statement of liabilities, but the full amount is never expended, a considerable part "lapsing" to the Treasury.

Assets.

- (1) "Authorized Advances" is a constant feature of the Treasury Accounts, and includes sums advanced on Post Office Money Order Account, advances on behalf of other Colonies, advances for purchase of stores, and other advances. For 1921-22 the advances stand at a larger total than usual owing to an increase of £20,000 in the advance authorised for purchase of water works, stores and supplies. It has not, however, been customary to show the value of stores on hand among the assets. Stores on hand on the 31st March were valued at approximately £37,652.
- (2) Arrears of taxes have usually been shown among assets in this Colony, though the full amount shown is never realised.

26. Brief detail notes on revenue and expenditure are appended.

REVENUE.

27. Customs and Excise Duties form the most important items in the Revenue Schedule, being responsible for about two-thirds of the total; reimbursements for services, including Post Office Receipts, Railway Receipts, Water Works Revenue, Wireless Telegraph Revenue, and other miscellaneous reimbursements represent a little less than one-fourth; and Port Dues, Stamp Duties, Fees, Fines and certain Miscellaneous Licences and Taxes the remainder. The distribution of revenue described above will be varied by the introduction of the Income Tax, but no receipts under this head are included in the year 1921-22. The estimate of receipts for 1922-23 is £16,000. This figure cannot, however, be accepted as normal, as the year 1921 on which the assessment was made was a very unfavourable one.

28. Customs receipts for 1921-22 totalled £164,498, a decrease of £37,850 on the receipts for the previous year. Excise duties, owing to increase in the rate, were maintained and realised £55,329, being £1,831 more than in the previous year. There were increases under the heads of Police Tax and Waterworks also, owing to increase in the rates, viz. :—

Police Tax ...	...	£6,191—an increase of £2,045.
Water Works ...	...	£24,303—an increase of £4,130.

The Wireless Telegraph Station returned a revenue of £4,022, but this included receipts from previous years which had been held in a Suspense Account. The actual revenue for the year was £600.

29. Most other heads of revenue showed decreases, the largest being :—

Stamp Duties, £9,096—a decrease of £8,120 on receipts for 1920-21.

Post Office, £17,247—a decrease of £8,100 on receipts for 1920-21.

Railway, £12,653—a decrease of £4,556 on receipts for 1920-21.

The decrease in Post Office receipts was due to the special features connected with exchange on Money Orders, but that shown by the Stamp Duties and Railway Receipts is a reflection of the depressed conditions.

EXPENDITURE.

30. The expenditure for the year presented no very special features, the comparatively large amount being due to the continuing high cost of materials and ordinary expenses of administration and to increased rates of pay and wages made necessary by the cost of living. The largest spending Departments are the

Police, Education Department, Medical Department (which includes Hospital, Lazaretto and Lunatic Asylum) and the Water-works. The expenditure on these Departments was as follows:—

Police, £41,520—a decrease of £1,421 compared with 1920–21.

Education, £32,220—an increase of £962 compared with 1920–21.

Medical, £49,991—an increase of £5,368 compared with 1920–21.

Water Works, £49,500—a decrease of £12,913 compared with 1920–21.

The total expenditure on the four Departments being £173,231, which represents about half of the total normal expenses of administration, excluding special charges.

31. The increase in the case of the Medical Departments was due to a special grant to the General Hospital for certain extensions of their work, the execution of which was, however, postponed to a great extent owing to financial conditions. The grant was, however, paid over.

32. The decrease in the Water Works expenditure was due to the shutting down of services owing to shortage of supply and to the transfer to the Harbour Master's Department of the water-boat service for supply of shipping. The Water Works expenditure includes £16,875 for loan charges on the loan for purchase of the system by the Government. If this be omitted from consideration the cost of maintenance and operation was £32,625, against which a revenue of £24,303 was received. It must be recollected that the Department supplies the large majority of the population free through the "standpipes" on public roads.

33. Charges for Debt, £17,550, showed an increase of £4,577, and Public Works an increase of £4,320, owing to more extensive repairs being required after the rigid economy of the war period. Railway expenditure, £22,344, was £3,275 more than in the previous year, owing principally to renewals of plant.

34. The cost of bonus and additional temporary emoluments to the Civil Service and Clergy was £20,783, and for Elementary School Teachers £5,705. The latter amount should, perhaps, be added to the cost of the Education Department, as the emoluments of the school teachers have been fixed for the future on an increased scale roughly equivalent to the former rates plus the bonus payments.

(2) PUBLIC DEBT.

35. The Public Debt on 31st March, 1922, was £561,500, and the face value of the Sinking Funds £205,605. The largest single item is the Water Works Loan of £375,000, raised for the purchase of the water supply system in 1895. Of the remainder, about £109,000 has been expended at various dates on the construction of public works, purchase and enlargement of buildings, etc.; about £20,000 having been spent from loan funds on the

repair of wharf walls since 1881. A sum of £65,000 has been spent since 1916 on the purchase and reconstruction of the railway.

The annual charges for interest and sinking fund total £28,000, exclusive of the charges incurred in connection with debentures issued to cover the deficit on 1921-22 which are not included in the above totals.

(3) BANKS.

36. (a) *Savings Bank*.—The total sum to the credit of depositors on 31st December, 1921, was £611,806, and the value of invested funds £678,818. The number of depositors was 12,859. The corresponding figures for 1920 were: deposits £686,975, value of invested funds £739,913, number of depositors 13,057. The use of the bank is not confined to small depositors.

37. (b) *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank*.—This bank, which was established in 1906 with the proceeds of the special grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government in 1902 towards the assistance of the sugar industry in Barbados, now plays a very important part in the financial arrangements of that industry and of the Colony.

38. The original capital of the Bank (£80,000) has been augmented by the profits of successive years until at the end of May, 1922, it was given at £159,000. The whole amount is placed in loans to planters, and in addition it has been customary for the Bank to borrow considerable sums from commercial banks for the purpose of loans made to planters under the special security of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907. Thus, on 31st May, 1921 (the Agricultural Bank year is from 1st June to 31st May), there were outstanding loans to planters amounting to £462,107, and the Bank owed the Commercial Banks about £325,000. In these circumstances, the Commercial Banks were not prepared to continue advances for the year 1921-22, and, in view of the heavy losses in sugar sustained by many in 1920-21, and the poor results of the 1921 crop, the position of the Sugar Bank was a difficult one.

39. The Sugar Bank was accordingly not in a position to make advances for the 1922 crop at first, but the difficulty was partly overcome by arrangements made by various merchants and others to make loans to estates through the Sugar Bank on the security of certificates given by borrowers under the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act to the Sugar Bank and transferred to the lenders. A limited overdraft was also negotiated at a later stage with the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The direct advances by the Bank for the 1921-22 crop, however, totalled only £74,305, very much less than normal.

40. The Sugar Bank also took the unaccustomed course of inviting deposits from private depositors, on which 6 per cent. interest was paid. About £120,000 was received in this way, and, by this means and by the aid of repayments of loans during

1921–22, the debts due to the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada were paid off.

41. On 31st May, 1922, the loans outstanding had been reduced to £260,753, and the Bank owed to depositors £109,206 and to the Canadian Bank of Commerce £28,555. This was a great improvement on the position at the end of May, 1921, but still left the Bank unable to make advances to estates from its own resources. In view of this, negotiations were set on foot early in 1922 to secure advances from the three Commercial Banks to finance the 1922–23 crop on the strength of a Government guarantee. This guarantee, which extends to the operations of the year 1922–23 only and also to the sums due to private depositors, is embodied in two Acts passed in May, 1922, by which the Government undertakes to issue debentures for any unredeemed balance of advances made to finance the 1922–23 crop. Conditions are laid down restricting the grant of loans under this scheme to those who are not in a position to finance their estates from other resources, and giving the Government a first call on the funds of the Sugar Bank to secure debentures issued.

42. Although the position of the Bank has been made difficult by the sudden collapse in the sugar industry in 1920, and the succeeding poor crops, the security afforded for outstanding loans is sound, and if the results of the next two years' crops are reasonably good, the Bank should recover its formerly strong position without much difficulty and possibly without any call on the Government under the guarantee scheme.

IV.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

43. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years is given below :—

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
1917	2,285,278	2,190,114
1918	2,986,006	2,480,646
1919	3,893,458	3,305,382
1920	5,145,537	4,865,894
1921	2,642,273	1,467,903

It will be observed that there is a regular and appreciable excess in the value of imports over that of exports. As the export figures include the value of bunker coal supplied to shipping, it would appear that the explanation must be sought for in the "invisible" earnings, particularly the proceeds of investments abroad and earnings abroad remitted to the Colony. Quite an appreciable sum is remitted annually through the Post Office from Barbadians abroad. In 1920, the amount so remitted totalled £96,076, but fell off in 1921 to £38,816. In addition to remittances through the Money Order service those through the Banks must also be taken into account.

44. It may be well to explain that the figures given as to trade apply to the calendar year 1921.

45. The whole economic life of the Colony is based on the sugar crop, and the greatly diminished import and export returns for the year 1921 are a reflection of what might almost be termed a disastrous year for sugar. Fuller details are given below under the head of "Agriculture."

IMPORTS.

46. Excluding bullion and specie and trade in transit, there was a net decrease in the value of imports of £2,333,732. The decrease was fairly generally distributed though naturally more marked in articles other than foodstuffs. A few typical instances are given.

VALUE OF IMPORTS.

	1920. £	1921. £
Apparel	49,207	12,818
Bags and sacks	37,113	3,341
Boots and shoes	40,143	16,259
Motor vehicles	31,577	8,595
Cotton piece goods	218,939	75,730
Other manufactures	56,480	24,878
Iron and steel manufactures	59,601	30,121
Woollen goods	31,484	5,140

In considering these figures, account must be taken of the lower prices prevailing in 1921, and of the improvement in sterling exchange in the case of goods imported from Canada and the United States of America. But after making due allowance for these factors the figures sufficiently indicate the great decrease in purchasing power involved in a bad sugar year.

47. The only marked exception to the general downward trend was the importation of sugar machinery, of which £108,000 worth was imported, as compared with £20,000 in 1920. This was due to orders placed in more prosperous times being executed during the depressed period.

EXPORTS.

48. The decrease in value of sugar and molasses shipped during 1921 was as follows:—

	1920. £	1921. £	Decrease. £
Sugar	2,203,052	515,187	1,687,865
Molasses	1,310,524	403,927	906,597

49. *Rum*.—25,867 gallons were exported as compared with 30,310 in 1920, but the value increased to £15,520 as compared with £6,820.

50. *Cotton*.—71,519 lb. were exported, valued at £6,498, an increase of 50,000 lb. in quantity and £4,993 in value over 1920.

51. The average prices prevailing for staple articles during the last five years are given below :—

	1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.			1921.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar, per ton	20	10	0	20	10	0	28	10	0	63	15	0	22	10	0
Molasses, per gallon ...	1	1½		1	7½		1	10		3	1		1	5	
Cotton, per lb.	2	2		4	0		4	0		1	5		1	10	
Rum, per gallon	2	1		2	6		8	0		4	6		12	0	

MINOR PRODUCTS.

52. Cotton Seed Meal and Cake to the value of £8,323 (quantity 1,468,880 lb.) was exported as compared with 49,000 lb., valued at £205, in the previous year.

Manjak: 109 tons, value £2,844, as against 91 tons, value £2,274 in 1921.

Lime (Building): 7,965 bags, value £398, as against 40,145 bags, value £2,007 in 1921.

Fresh Vegetables: £4,947 worth were exported, as against only £11 in 1921.

53. The total value of minor articles of local produce exported was £34,518, as compared with £38,183 in 1921.

COALING TRADE.

54. This trade was severely affected by the prevailing depression. Seventy-nine steamers were supplied with 28,596 tons of coal, as compared with 215 vessels supplied with 74,599 tons in 1920. The value of coal supplied was returned at £74,339, as against £484,894 in the previous year.

TRANSIT TRADE.

55. The value of goods entered for transhipment was £166,075.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

56. The import trade for 1921 was distributed as follows, according to origin and value :—

	£
From United Kingdom	947,442
Canada	594,365
Other parts of British Empire	336,628
United States of America	585,381
Foreign countries	178,457
	<hr/>
	2,642,273

57. The following table shows the sources of imports for the last five years, given in percentage :—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	27·5	20·0	19·0	30·3	35·9
Canada	15·3	16·3	18·6	18·5	22·5
Other parts of British Empire	15·8	21·4	18·3	12·3	12·7
United States of America ...	37·3	34·8	39·8	35·7	22·2
Other foreign countries	4·1	7·5	4·3	3·2	6·7

The new tariff giving a 50 per cent. preference on imports of British origin in accordance with the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1920 was introduced in June, 1921, but it is too soon to gauge its effect with any certainty, more especially in view of the general depression of trade and the fluctuations in exchange occurring in that year. It is satisfactory to note, however, that 71 per cent. of the imports were of British origin.

58. The following list of certain principal articles of imports from Canada and the United States of America, with their values, may be of interest:—

				<i>Canada.</i>	<i>U.S.A.</i>
				£	£
Boots and shoes	...	...	...	1,374	6,136
Butter	...	...	...	4,322	27,320
Oilmeal	...	...	...	39,876	3,548
Cornmeal	...	...	...	2,668	39,562
Flour	...	...	...	202,386	39,918
Oats	...	...	...	68,814	40
Salt meats	...	...	...	14,843	66,329
White pine, spruce	...	...	...	36,064	3,603
Pitch pine	...	...	...	—	27,836
Shingles	...	...	...	10,577	—
Vegetables, fresh	...	...	...	6,322	588

59. The export trade according to destinations is given below, only produce and manufactures of the Colony are shown:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
To United Kingdom	509,863	391,101	343,887	1,055,346	105,687
„ Canada ...	861,901	850,419	1,470,193	1,266,134	653,332
„ Other parts of					
British Empire	118,047	200,021	207,681	300,165	137,183
„ United States of					
America ...	105,263	174,086	87,290	567,251	67,429
„ Foreign countries	28,577	20,696	85,822	371,188	10,019
	<u>1,623,651</u>	<u>1,636,323</u>	<u>2,194,873</u>	<u>3,560,084</u>	<u>973,650</u>

60. The distribution of the sugar and molasses crop was as follows:—

	<i>Sugar.</i>	<i>Molasses.</i>
	£	£
United Kingdom	92,055	—
Canada	335,351	316,624
Newfoundland	80	52,342
British West Indies	42,240	818
United States of America	30,200	34,143
Elsewhere	14,261	—
	<u>£515,187</u>	<u>£403,927</u>

AGRICULTURE.

61. Reference has already been made to the severe drought of 1920 and 1921, which caused the sugar crop to be the lowest recorded for many years. The crop is reaped between February and June, and the figures given below, though nominally the exports for the year, may be accepted as roughly corresponding to the crop results. Exports of sugar since 1917 have been as follows (molasses being reduced to equivalent in sugar):—

1917	...	...	69,367 tons.	1920	...	...	48,212 tons.
1918	...	...	57,191 „	1921	...	...	36,005 „
1919	...	...	69,628 „				

62. Not only was the output small, but the cost of production was unusually high, as a large proportion of manures and other estate supplies had been purchased at the height of the “boom” prices. When in addition to these difficulties the planter was faced with a heavy fall in price, it can be easily understood that 1921 was one of the most difficult years through which the industry has passed. Nearly all estates were worked at a loss, in many cases a substantial loss, and the difficulty of financing estates for the ensuing crop caused widespread anxiety. Fortunately, that difficulty was overcome as explained elsewhere, and, given one or two favourable years, the industry may well be re-established on a secure basis in a very short period.

63. The continued loss from insects and other pests, however, causes some misgiving. The Director of Agriculture again reports considerable damage from the Root Borer and the Brown Hard Back. The Mosaic Disease, which was brought to notice in 1920, was the subject of special measures of control. A Commission was appointed in November, 1921, including representative planters, to carry out a careful inspection of lands for Mosaic Disease and take measures for its eradication. The Commission was granted extensive powers for securing the destruction of infected plants. The inspectors appointed by the Commission found the disease widely prevalent.

64. The menace of plant diseases and the narrow margin often existing between the prices and costs of production of sugar give a special importance to the experiments carried on by the Department of Agriculture in the production of new varieties of seedling canes. A schedule of results obtained with the more important varieties during 1921 is given below:—

Variety		No. of Years Tried.	No. of Experiments.	Percentage of increase	
				Over White Transparent.	Over B6450.
B.H.10(12)	...	8	72	62.1	26.6
B.a.6032	...	7	98	50.2	12.8
B.a.7924	...	8	59	36.8	8.2
B.a.11,403	...	7	10	37.5	7.1
B.a.11,569	...	7	36	58.1	16.4
B.a.12,079	...	7	12	41.1	12.1
B.S.F.12(48)	...	6	6	31.0	14.0
B.S.F.12(50)	...	6	6	39.4	21.3

The experiments were, however, seriously hampered by the ravages of insect pests to an extent which deprives the results in some cases of much of their value. An endeavour is being made to find more suitable lands for carrying on the experiments where pests can be kept under more control.

COTTON.

65. The results of the cotton crop for 1921, as compared with 1920, are given below :—

					1920.	1921.
Acres	...	...	...	...	1,179	1,564
Quantity, lb.	...	...	...	...	100,610	88,416
Value	...	...	...	...	£13,201	£14,242

Selected seed of improved type grown under supervision of the Department of Agriculture was used by a number of planters and gave some very good results ranging from 1,200 to 1,600 lb. of seed cotton per acre. The quality of this cotton was highly reported on by Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland as "very bright, staple, fine, long, and regular," the value being put at 30d. "with any demand."

66. The various vegetable crops planted for local consumption suffered considerably from decreased rainfall, giving much reduced yields in many cases.

67. Many estates are much hampered by the very high prices at which they changed hands during the 1920 "boom," which makes profitable working almost impossible under present conditions.

INDUSTRY.

68. Prospecting for oil by the British Union Oil Company has been energetically pushed forward. Oil has been found in various places, but no definite opinion of the commercial prospects can yet be formed. So far the indications are decidedly hopeful.

SHIPPING.

69. The shipping trade of the port, as might be expected, shared in the general depression, arising not only from local conditions, but from world conditions affecting shipping.

70. The number of vessels entered was 1,108, with a tonnage of 1,184,444, as compared with 1,375 with a tonnage of 1,604,914 during 1920.

The number of "transit" vessels, i.e., other than regular callers, was only 128, as compared with 300 in 1920 and 516 in 1919.

71. The returns of the coaling trade (see paragraph 54) were the lowest for seventeen years.

V.—EDUCATION.

72. The schools in the Island, though largely assisted and in the case of the elementary schools almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

73. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., Elementary Schools of which there were 134 in 1921; Second Grade Schools, six in number; and three First Grade Schools, viz., Harrison College, the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. Harrison and Queen's Colleges are situated in Bridgetown, and the Lodge School (a boarding school) in the parish of St. John, about twelve miles from town. The elementary schools in their turn are annually classified as first, second, or third class schools, according to the efficiency of each school in work, tone, etc. There are also three "ragged schools" for very poor children.

74. The policy of the Education Board in recent years has tended towards a reduction in the number of elementary schools and concentration in larger schools.

Between 1912 and 1920 the Board closed thirty-three schools, erected nineteen, and enlarged twenty-two. There were 19,061 children on the school registers during 1921, and the average attendance was 11,230. The corresponding figures for 1920 were 19,422 on the registers, and 11,297 in average attendance.

Attendance was handicapped by outbreaks of illness, especially enteric and dysentery. The total number of children between five and fifteen years of age in the Colony according to the census was 36,487.

75. There is not as much provision for training in manual and agricultural work as might be desired, and extension in this direction is hampered by lack of funds. Good work is done, however, at a fair number of schools in connection with school gardens, and, at a local Agricultural Exhibition held in December, a large number of satisfactory exhibits from elementary schools was displayed. Interest in this section of the work appears to be keen, and the work deserves better facilities and encouragement. Regular instruction in hygiene is given, and an experienced lady visitor, a member of a Medical Commission which visited the Colony in 1921, expressed a high opinion of the standard of cleanliness and discipline observed in the schools.

76. The pay of the elementary teachers was increased during the year, in the case of head teachers by 50 per cent., and in that of assistant and pupil teachers by 33½ per cent. over the pre-war rates. These rates, which were at first granted as a temporary bonus, were later made permanent. The cost of elementary school teachers' salaries, including bonus payments, amounts to £25,970, out of a total expenditure on education of £37,925. The Education Board reports that the salaries of teachers are now on a satisfactory basis.

77. The amount collected by way of school fees in elementary schools was £1,371, an average for each child of about 2s. 5d.

78. There is an institute for training elementary teachers known as the Rawle Institute, which was started in 1912 and is carried on in co-operation with Codrington College. There were eleven teachers (six male and five female) undergoing training at this institution during the year. So far fifty-three teachers, thirty-six male and seventeen female, have passed through the institute, of whom thirty-eight (twenty-four men and fourteen women) are now serving in the Island. The Government grant towards this institution was £450.

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE SCHOOLS.

79. The total Legislative Grant towards the six second grade schools was £2,951. These schools enter candidates for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations with fairly good results. The average attendance at all schools during the year was 426. The Combermere School for boys in Bridgetown with a roll of 248 is by far the largest. This school entered eighteen candidates for the Cambridge Local Examination (thirteen Junior and five Senior), of whom twelve passed. The total entry from all second grade schools was forty-one (thirty Junior and eleven Senior), of whom twenty-eight secured passes.

80. The total attendance at the three first grade schools was 426, of whom 292 were boys and 134 girls. The Government grant towards the first grade schools was £4,943, as against £3,566 in 1920. The two boys' schools enter candidates for the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificates, School Certificate and Lower Certificate Examinations, as well as for the Cambridge Locals. There were ten candidates for the Higher Certificate, of whom five passed, and eighteen candidates for the School Certificate, of whom five passed. Eight candidates entered for the Lower Certificate, of whom six passed.

81. There are several exhibitions offered for entries at the second and first grade schools, which are keenly competed for. Twenty such exhibitions tenable at the second grade schools were filled, and seven at the first grade schools. For the former forty-three candidates competed and for the latter thirty.

82. Cadet companies are maintained at the Lodge, Harrison College and Combermere Schools, and are, on the whole, well supported. In some cases their efficiency has reached a high pitch. Girl Guide troops have also been warmly taken up in connection with the girls' schools, and have been especially successful. The Boy Scout movement is established in some schools, and deserves greater support than it has so far secured.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

83. Codrington College, the only institution in the West Indies at which a University degree is obtainable, had thirteen students. There are four "Island Scholarships" tenable at this institution offered by the Government (two annually). Three candidates competed in 1921. Mr. H. A. M. Beckles, B.A., a former Island scholar at Codrington was awarded a Fellowship at Durham.

84. The Barbados Scholarship of £250 per annum for three years, tenable at an approved University in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, was awarded to Mr. H. W. Gregory, a pupil of Harrison College; ten candidates competed.

85. When all the conditions are considered the facilities for secondary and higher education in this Colony must be regarded as exceptionally good. It is to be hoped that in spite of financial difficulties it will be possible to preserve the high standard hitherto maintained, which has been not only a great credit to the Colony but an asset the value of which cannot be estimated in material terms.

86. Delegates from Barbados attended the West Indian Educational Conference held in Trinidad in April. Financial difficulties are unfortunately likely to delay the carrying out of many of the recommendations agreed upon.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

87. The census was taken on 24th April, 1921, and revealed an unexpected decrease in population, which was returned at 156,312, or 15,671 less than in 1911, which in its turn was over 10,000 less than in 1891. Up to 1891 the population steadily increased by about 1,000 yearly; since then there has been a nearly equal decline. Some of the more important results of the 1921 census are given below compared with those of 1911:—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	171,983	156,312
Number of whites	12,063	10,429
Number of blacks	118,387	111,677
Number of mixed	41,533	34,216
Number per square mile, St. Michael	3,825	3,623
" " " " whole Island	1,034	940
Percentage of females	59.2	59.7
Number of agricultural labourers (both sexes)	36,233	32,728
Attending educational institutions	34,244	25,533
Afflicted persons	1,200	1,124

88. The causes for the decline in population are given by the compiler of the census as emigration, declining birth-rate and higher death-rate. Owing to the unreliability of the immigration and emigration statistics, however, the calculation of all three factors is affected. The returns for birth and death-rates have been based on estimates showing an increasing population, the estimate for 1920, the year before the census, being 198,336. As there has been during the decennial period an excess of births over deaths of 8,725, it is evident, if the results of the census are accepted as even approximately correct, that there has been a loss of population by emigration of about 24,000, instead of a gain as shown by the immigration statistics. This error vitiates all calculations of birth and death-rates for the decennial period, both being higher than the published figures. The following calculations of rates from 1918 onwards have been made from the results of the 1921 census treated retrospectively:—

				<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Death-rate.</i>
1918	...	...	...	38'02	25'95 per 1,000.
1919	...	...	...	33'94	38'21 "
1920	...	...	...	37'07	32'90 "
1921	...	...	...	32'62	43'42 "

For the year 1912, the year after the last census, the birth and death-rates were approximately thirty-one and forty-one per mille respectively. In face of these figures, which show very remarkable fluctuations, it is difficult to draw a definite conclusion. There seems, unfortunately, little doubt that the high infantile mortality is a very important factor in the decline of population, though it is impossible to say whether, if this factor were modified, the resulting gain would not be counterbalanced by increased emigration. The method of compiling emigration statistics is under investigation.

89. The high percentage of females has been a constant factor in population figures in Barbados, at any rate during the last sixty years. The percentage has, however, increased since 1861 from 53'6 to 59'7 per cent. The excess, as might be expected, is largest in the Central Parish, to which there is an increasing movement of population, the percentage of population residing in that parish having grown from 13'1 per cent. in 1871 to 26'1 in 1921.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

90. The year 1921 was not a fortunate one in this respect. The outbreak of typhoid fever, recorded in the report for 1920, continued to increase and reached serious proportions. As there is no registration of deaths in the Colony (but only of burials, the cause of death not being shown), the effects of the epidemic can only be surmised, but there can be little doubt that the high death-rate recorded (43'42 per mille) must be attributed largely to this cause. Drought and hard times, no doubt, increased the incidence of the disease which happily has since abated. A large

number of cases were treated in the isolation hospitals opened by the various parishes. Many cases, however, must reach an advanced stage before the aid of a doctor is sought.

An outbreak of this disease in the prison was successfully controlled by the inoculation of all prisoners on entry.

91. The public water supply is carefully and regularly tested, and its purity appears to be above suspicion, so that the causes for the spread of the disease must be looked for in unsatisfactory sanitation and flies. Owing to drought, the water supply was curtailed in some districts, but this could only have contributed indirectly, if at all, to the prevalence of enteric.

92. A Sanitary Survey of Bridgetown was completed and a report presented by Mr. Howard Humphreys in September, 1921, but, owing to financial stringency, it was not possible to proceed with the matter. The conditions under which a large part of the population lives make the problem peculiarly difficult and expensive to tackle effectively.

93. A clinic for the treatment of venereal diseases was opened at the General Hospital. This was made possible by the efforts of the Women's Social Welfare League under the presidency of Lady O'Brien. The League provided funds and equipment for the maintenance of the clinic and secured the enthusiastic co-operation of the hospital staff by whom the clinic is served. Excellent work was done, and the number of patients attending increased steadily. Voluntary effort such as this can, however, only touch the fringe of the problem, which calls urgently for a united effort by the whole community, supported by public funds. Unfortunately, the financial position makes any comprehensive scheme impracticable at present, but a start should be made as soon as possible on however limited a scale.

94. A series of experiments in the treatment of leprosy with ethyl esters of Chaulmoogra Oil has been in progress at the Lazaretto during the year. It is not yet possible to express a definite opinion as to the efficacy of the treatment, but the majority of those treated have shown marked improvement and the results seem very promising.

95. Barbados enjoys natural advantages from a public health standpoint which few tropical places can equal and none surpass. Its climate is equable without extremes of heat or cold in any part, the soil admirably drained by nature; it has an irreproachable water supply and no malaria fever. With these advantages artificial methods of sanitation are a less pressing necessity than the density of the population might lead a casual observer accustomed to tropical conditions to suppose. No one could claim, however, that the present position is satisfactory, especially in the central parish and Bridgetown, where over a quarter of the population is concentrated. The indiscriminate manner in which

villages have been allowed to grow up without a settled plan co-ordinated to a definite sanitary scheme must make the task of organising a scheme very difficult, and until financial conditions show substantial improvement no progress can be looked for. It is earnestly to be hoped, however, that the parish authorities who are responsible for sanitation will not be daunted by the undoubted difficulties, and will keep the question before the public eye.

VII.—COMMUNICATION.

(a) BY SEA.

96. In spite of the absence of a contract for a regular mail service to the United Kingdom, the Colony was well served in this respect. The steamers of the Royal Netherlands West India Mail maintained a fortnightly service from Dover, and there were regular sailings of the Harrison Line steamers, as well as occasional mails by Leyland Line vessels. In all, 134 mails were received from the United Kingdom, and 70 despatched.

97. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's fortnightly service between Canada and the West Indies was kept up, and was supplemented by freight steamers of the Canadian Merchant Marine. No definite prospect of the improved passenger and Mail Service contemplated by the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, to which this Colony agreed to contribute £4,000 a year, has yet taken shape. The subsidy to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company continues to be paid entirely by the Canadian Government, the contract having been provisionally extended for a year.

98. From New York, steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company (Furness, Withy & Company) gave a fortnightly service.

Other Lines calling were the Lamport and Holt, Lloyd Brasiliro, Booth Line, and United States Steel Product Line, all from South American ports.

Communications between the Islands are supplemented by schooners. During 1921, 313 mails were received from steamers, and 83 (inter-Island) mails by sailing vessels. Communication with Jamaica remains indirect and subject to considerable delay.

99. Tourist ships of the Furness Withy and White Star Lines paid several visits during the winter months.

100. The passenger service to the United Kingdom, though much improved by the regular service of the Dutch mail steamers, is still considerably below the pre-war standard, and the comparatively high rates are a serious check on travelling. Local effort can, however, do little to improve the situation.

101. The number of ships entered was 1,121, of which 424 were steamships, and 687 sailing ships. Seven warships (five British) visited the Island, and three yachts. Of the steamships entered, 270 were British, fifty-seven American and forty-one Dutch.

(b) TELEGRAPHS.

102. The West India and Panama Company's service continues to be the principal means of telegraphic communication. The Western Telegraph Company's Line to Brazil was opened in 1920, and a line operated by the Western Union Company to Miami was laid but not opened to traffic owing to difficulties as to securing permission to land the American end of the cable.

103. The Government Wireless Station has proved exceedingly useful to shipping and during interruptions of cable communication. The station, which was equipped on a temporary basis during the War, needs considerable improvement before it can be regarded as adequate. Arrangements to increase the range and instal a more satisfactory apparatus have now been made.

(c) INTERNAL.

104. There is no inland telegraph, communication being maintained by a private telephone company with some 1,500 lines and by local postal deliveries. There are ten district post offices in the Island. A daily house-to-house delivery is maintained in the country districts, and four deliveries in Bridgetown.

105. The Barbados Government Railway, purchased by the Government in 1916, has, so far, been carried on at a loss. A general manager was appointed during 1921, and it may be hoped that with more skilled professional assistance the equipment of the line may be gradually improved and a better service afforded. The usefulness of the line is restricted by the configuration of the country which limits the area which can be economically served. The expenditure on the railway in 1921 was £22,344 and the receipts £12,653. The expenditure, however, included renewals of equipment and track, while the very short sugar crop seriously affected the receipts.

106. The Island is a network of roads of varying quality. Financial stringency and the increasing use of motor vehicles, especially heavy lorries, have caused a marked deterioration of the surface. The dust at certain seasons of the year is a serious nuisance.

107. There is a mule tramway service in Bridgetown and suburbs, and two motor 'bus services running to Speightstown and St. Johns.

108. The configuration of the coast is not generally suitable to communication by boat, but there is a regular sloop service between Bridgetown and Speightstown.

W. E. JACKSON,
Acting Governor.

Barbados,
26th August, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1099	New Hebrides	1920
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
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1119	Gold Coast	1920
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1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	"
1123	British Guiana	"
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1127	Gibraltar	"
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1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
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1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922

MISCELLANEOUS.

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83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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No. 1135.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1103.)



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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.

SITUATION AND AREA.

1. The Island of Trinidad is the most southerly of the West Indian Islands and is geographically and biologically a part of the South American Continent, from which it is separated by the Gulf of Paria, into which fall the northern mouths of the Orinoco. It is situated between $10^{\circ} 3'$ and $10^{\circ} 50'$ North latitude, and $60^{\circ} 55'$ and $61^{\circ} 56'$ West longitude from Greenwich. Its average length is about 69 miles, and breadth about 54 miles, and its total area is 1,862 square miles. The Island is traversed by three parallel ranges of hills running approximately east and west. The first, rising to over 3,000 feet, borders the northern coast; the second, rising only in one spot to 1,000 feet, runs diagonally across the centre of the Island; and the third, seldom rising above a few hundred feet, occupies a broad belt near the Southern coast.

2. The Island of Tobago lies between $11^{\circ} 8'$ and $11^{\circ} 21'$ North latitude and $60^{\circ} 30'$ and $60^{\circ} 50'$ West longitude, distance about 26 miles North-East of Trinidad. It is 26 miles long and $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles at its greatest breadth, and has an area of 114 square miles.

HISTORY.

3. Trinidad was first discovered by Columbus on the 31st July, 1498, and taken possession of by him for the Crown of Spain. It was visited by Sir Robert Dudley and by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1595, and was included in the Earl of Montgomery's grant in 1628. In 1640 it was raided by the Dutch, and in 1677 and 1690 by the French. In 1783 a Royal Proclamation was issued by the Court of Madrid by which extraordinary advantages were offered to foreigners of all nations to settle in Trinidad, the sole condition imposed being that they should profess the Roman Catholic religion. The result of the Proclamation was a large influx of population, which was augmented by many French families, who were driven from St. Domingo and elsewhere by the French Revolution, and to this is due the preponderance of the French element in a Colony which never belonged to France. In 1797, Great Britain being then at war with Spain, a British expedition sailed from Martinique for the reduction of Trinidad which resulted in the surrender of the

Island to His Majesty's forces, and on the 18th February, 1797, the articles of capitulation were signed by Sir R. Abercromby, Admiral Harvey, and Chacon, the Spanish Governor. In 1802 it was finally ceded to the Crown of Great Britain by the Treaty of Amiens.

4. Tobago was discovered by Columbus in 1498, at which time it was occupied by Caribs. The British Flag was first planted on the Island in 1580, and the sovereignty was claimed by James I. in 1608. In 1628 a grant of the Island was made by Charles I. to the Earl of Pembroke. It remained unoccupied until 1632, when 300 Zealanders were sent out by a company of Dutch merchants, who styled it New Walcheren. After a residence of about two years these settlers were all destroyed or expelled by the Caribs and Spaniards from Trinidad. In 1641 James Duke of Courland obtained a grant of the Island from Charles I., and in 1642 two vessels arrived with a number of Courlanders, who settled on the North side of the Island. These were followed by a second Dutch Colony in 1654, who established themselves on the Southern coast. In 1658 the Courlanders were overpowered by the Dutch, who remained in possession of the whole island until 1662, when the Dutch Company resigned their right to it. In this year Cornelius Lamprois procured letters patent from Louis the Fourteenth creating him Baron of Tobago, and proprietor of the Island under the Crown of France. In 1664 the grant of the Island to the Duke of Courland was renewed by Charles II. The Dutch refused to recognise the Duke's title, but in 1667 they were compelled to evacuate it by the French Admiral Estras, who defeated the Dutch Admiral Binks in Scarborough Bay, whereupon Louis the Fourteenth restored it to the Duke of Courland, who made over his title to a company of London Merchants in 1681. In 1684, by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the island was declared neutral, the subjects of all European Powers being at liberty to form settlements but not to place garrisons on it. By the Treaty of Paris in 1763, Tobago was ceded by France to England in perpetuity. In 1781, it was captured by the French under the Duke of Bouillé, and in 1783 it was surrendered by treaty to the French Crown. In April, 1793, it was captured by a British force under Admiral Lefrey and General Cuyler, and was once more restored to the French by the Treaty of Peace in 1802, and again reconquered in 1803 by Commander Hood and General Greenfield. In 1814 it was finally ceded in perpetuity to the British Crown.

5. By Order in Council under Act 50 and 51 Vict: Tobago became part of the Colony of Trinidad as from 1st January, 1889. By a further Order in Council of 20th October, 1898, Tobago became a Ward of the United Colony of Trinidad and Tobago as from the 1st January, 1899.

CLIMATE.

6. The climate of Trinidad is tropical and may be divided into two distinct seasons, a dry season from January to the middle of May, with an average rainfall of about 3 inches per month, and a wet season from June to December, with an average of 8 inches per month. The coolest months are December to April. The average temperature during the day is 84 and during the night 74. The average rainfall is about 64 inches, that of 1921, from records taken at all stations, was 85.13 inches. The climate is healthy and by no means hurtful to Europeans, provided reasonable precautions are taken. Hurricanes are unknown.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

7. The revival in prosperity which marked the beginning of 1921 was not maintained. Very low prices for cocoa and sugar prevailed throughout the year and at its close the prospects were not encouraging for either product. A serious decline in revenue from Customs and Excise was the natural consequence.

8. Sir John Chancellor, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., left the Colony on the 28th May and retired at the end of the year. During the five years of His Excellency's administration, which included the most critical period of the war, the Civil Service, the Department of Agriculture, the Government Railways and the Medical Service were re-organized. The drainage of the Caroni Swamp and the new Leper Settlement at Chacachacare were begun and a comprehensive plan was drawn up for the future development of the Colony.

9. During the year progress was made with various schemes for social improvement. The Catholic Home for Girls, which provides comfortable and inexpensive quarters for a number of working girls, was opened; preparations were well advanced for beginning the work of the Young Men's Christian Association, assisted by a Government grant of £1,000; and the building of a Sailors' and Soldiers' Club, intended mainly for the entertainment of Sailors from British Men of War, was almost completed by public subscription.

VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

10. The estimated population of the two islands Trinidad and Tobago, at 31st December, 1921, was 368,943. The white population is chiefly composed of English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. The large majority of the inhabitants are natives of the West Indies of African descent, the balance being made up of East Indians, estimated at 128,533 and a small number of Chinese.

11. The Birth-rate was 31·64 per 1,000 and the Death-rate 24·02 per 1,000.

12. The number of deaths of children under 1 year was 1,625 and the infantile mortality rate was 139·75 per 1,000 Births.

13. The Death-rates from the principal diseases were as follows:—

Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	1·61	per 1,000.
Malaria	...	2·42	do.
Tuberculosis	...	1·34	do.
Dysentery	...	0·60	do.
Enteric Fever	...	0·65	do.
Ankylostomiasis	...	0·81	do.

14. Measures for the reduction of Infantile Mortality have been maintained. The Mothers' and Infants' Clinic in Port-of-Spain continues to be well attended, and branches of the Child Welfare League are established in six country districts.

15. Influenza was prevalent generally, and was of mild type. There was no epidemic prevalence of any other disease.

16. Venereal Clinics on modern lines were established at the Out-patients' Departments of the Colonial Hospitals, Port-of-Spain and San Fernando.

17. On the recommendation of the Central Board of Health, drainage schemes for the control of malaria were begun in three country districts. It is proposed to continue the development of these Major Anti-Malarial Measures. Minor Measures of a similar nature were maintained in all country districts.

18. The intensive treatment of Hook-worm disease was continued by the Rockefeller International Board of Health. The Central Board of Health co-operated by enforcing the establishment of latrines in advance of the treatment in the areas about to be operated in.

HOSPITALS.

19. The following hospital accommodation is provided:—

Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain	...	340	beds
The San Fernando Hospital	...	123	do
The Government District Hospitals in Tobago and at Arima, St Joseph, Tacarigua, Couva, Princes Town and Cedros	...	248	do

There are also small temporary hospitals at Sangre Grande, Mayaro and Ioco.

FINANCE.

REVENUE.

20. The Revenue of the Colony for the year 1921 amounted to £1,867,944, exceeding the Estimate by £91,979 and less than the Revenue for the preceding financial year by £49,799. The following comparative table shews the several heads of Revenue and how the increase was made up :—

Heads of Revenue.	1920.	1921.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	638,098	524,408	...	113,690
2. Port, Harbour and Wharf Dues ...	11,411	11,472	61	
3. Licences, Excise, &c.	545,522	502,525	...	42,997
4. Tax on Incomes	107,951	213,960	106,009	
5. Fees of Court and Office	111,774	168,795	57,021	
6. Post Office	13,468	13,077	..	391
7. Government Railway	225,404	223,005	...	2,399
8. Rent of Government Property ...	2,592	2,102	...	490
9. Interest	36,905	54,675	17,770	
10. Miscellaneous Receipts	18,920	9,125	...	9,795
11. Land Sales, Royalties	56,259	46,281	..	9,978
12. Produce Tax	65,396	49,593	..	15,803
13. Special Receipts	84,043	48,926	...	35,117
	1,917,743	1,867,944	180,861	230,660
	Net decrease		...	£49,799

21. The export tax on produce during the year was for General Revenue purposes as follows :—

Sugar ... ..	...	3/- the 1,000 lb.
Cocoa ... ..	...	6½d. „ 100 „
Coconuts ... ..	...	3/4 „ 1,000 nuts.
Copra ... ..	...	10/- „ 1,000 lb.
Rum ... ..	...	3d. „ gallon.
Molasses ... ..	...	½d. „ „
Cedar ... ..	...	3d. „ cubic foot.
Syrup ... ..	...	2d. „ gallon.

This tax brought in £49,593 as against £65,396 in 1920, a decrease of £15,803.

22. A tax on incomes in excess of £500 per annum was also imposed for revenue purposes which realised £213,960. The rates levied were:—

- (a) Three pence on every £1 of income exceeding £500 and up to £1,000 ;
- (b) Sixpence on every additional £1 beyond £1,000 from £1,001 up to £2,000 ;
- (c) One shilling on every additional £1 beyond £2,000 from £2,001 up to £5,000 ;
- (d) Two shillings on every additional £1 beyond £5,000 from £5,001 up to £8,000 ;
- (e) Four shillings on every additional £1 beyond £8,000 from £8,001 up to £10,000 ;
- (f) Five shillings on every additional £1 beyond £12,000 from £12,001 up to £20,000 ;
- (g) Six shillings on every additional £1 beyond £20,000 from £20,001 upwards.

EXPENDITURE.

23. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £2,074,926 being £179,502 in excess of the Estimates, and £422,329 in excess of the expenditure for the previous year, and was £206,982 more than the revenue for the same period.

24. The expenditure included £185,874 on account of extraordinary expenditure, of which £92,053 was expended on Extraordinary Public Works, £90,184 on Roads and Bridges, £404 on the Defence Scheme, £2,618 on the Trinidad Contingents of the British West Indies Regiment and £615 on Trinidad Returned Soldiers.

25. The Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years were as under:—

Year.	Revenue.	EXPENDITURE.		
		Recurrent.	Extra-ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1917	1,098,183	997,513	100,182	1,097,695
1918	1,172,700	1,046,944	77,314	1,124,258
1919	1,342,884	1,200,240	109,167	1,309,407
1920	1,917,743	1,566,113	86,484	1,652,597
1921	1,867,944	1,889,053	185,874	2,074,927

BALANCES.

26. The Balance Sheet of the Colony on the 31st December, 1920, showed a surplus of Assets over Liabilities of £471,886 and that of the 31st December, 1921, a surplus of Assets over Liabilities of £264,904. The financial transactions of the year thus resulted in a reduced surplus of £206,982, due to the large increase in the cost of all articles of food and of material for Public Works, Roads, Bridges and Railways.

PUBLIC DEBT.

27. The Public Debt at 31st December, 1920, amounted to £3,207,763. During the year £1,862 was redeemed leaving a total Loan indebtedness at 31st December, 1921, of £3,205,901. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of £440,765.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

28. British Currency and United States gold are legal tender. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government and in dollars by the public, and the coin in circulation is almost exclusively British silver and bronze, there being no limit to silver as legal tender.

29. In 1903 an Ordinance providing for the issue of Government Currency Notes was brought into force. Under this Ordinance notes of the denominations of \$1, \$2 and \$1,000 have been issued, the total value in circulation at 31st December, 1921, amounting to £179,591 13s. 4d.

30. Government Savings Banks are established in 24 districts with a head office in Port-of-Spain. The total number of depositors at 31st December, 1921, was 31,534 with deposits amounting to £304,261. The savings banks are largely made use of by the East Indians, of whom at the 31st December, there were 12,454 depositors with £189,339 to their credit.

31. The Private Banks are the Colonial Bank, paid up capital £900,000 with a note circulation in the Colony estimated at £312,500; the Royal Bank of Canada, paid up capital £4,250,000 with an authorized note circulation in the Colony of £312,500; Messrs. Gordon, Grant & Company, Limited, paid up capital of £500,000; and the Canadian Bank of Commerce, paid up capital £3,125,000. In addition to engaging in banking business of every character, both the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have savings bank branches and pay the same rate of interest as is paid by the Government Savings Bank, viz.: 3 per cent.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

32. The c. i. f. value of the total imports amounted to £6,903,694 of which goods valued at £6,870,152 were cleared for home consumption. In addition, goods valued at £509,988 were entered for transshipment giving a total import trade of £7,413,682, a decrease as compared with 1920 of £2,084,484.

33. The nature and value of the imports (excluding transshipments) for the last five years were as under:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class 1—Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	1,896,868	2,037,263	2,466,174	2,980,839	2,748,580
Class 2—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	401,700	548,915	462,744	833,226	504,219
Class 3—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	1,746,903	1,717,100	2,085,554	4,622,614	3,570,813
Class 4—Miscellaneous and unclassified articles ...	23,528	15,478	70,058	49,837	19,279
Class 5—Bullion and Specie...	67,715	...	95,401	3,716	60,803
Total ...	4,136,714	4,318,756	5,179,931	8,490,232	6,903,694

34. Of the imports entered for home consumption, goods to the value of £3,000,780 were admitted free of duty. The Customs duty collected on the remainder amounted to £493,632.

35. The following table gives the direction of the import trade for the last five years, and shows the effect which the war has had in deflecting the trade with the United Kingdom to other markets. The share of the United Kingdom which in 1914 was 34·6 per cent. and had dropped in 1919 to 16·7 per cent. showed an upward tendency, being 25·37 per cent. for the year 1921 while the share of the United States which in 1914 was 29·5 per cent. shewed a decrease over the 1919 figures amounting in 1921 to 36·11 per cent.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
U. Kingdom ...	850,504 20·6%	638,056 15·3%	864,233 16·7%	2,182,025 26·58%	1,726,585 25·37%
Canada ...	747,816 18·1 ..	804,035 18·6 ..	1,061,826 20·5 ..	1,252,009 15·26 ..	1,155,087 16·97 ..
Other British Possessions	421,547 10·2 ..	488,820 11·2 ..	427,859 8·3 ..	362,760 4·42 ..	273,794 4·02 ..
United States	1,579,562 38·2 ..	1,590,515 36·9 ..	2,024,516 39·1 ..	3,397,803 41·39 ..	2,457,593 36·11 ..
Venezuela ...	446,286 10·8 ..	711,128 16·5 ..	691,527 13·3 ..	677,421 8·25 ..	937,198 13·77 ..
France ...	41,502 1·0 ..	42,835 ·9 ..	21,892 ·4 ..	71,729 ·87 ..	55,758 ·81 ..
Germany ...	...	...	...	...	...
O. Countries...	46,197 1·1 ..	23,397 ·6 ..	88,078 1·7 ..	264,970 3·23 ..	199,965 2·94 ..
	4,136,714	4,318,756	5,179,931	8,208,807	6,805,940

The figures in respect of 1921 do not include parcel post which amounted to £97,754, of which it is estimated that 68·1 per cent. was from the United Kingdom, 22·8 per cent. from the United States, 4·6 per cent. from Canada and 4·5 per cent. from other countries.

EXPORTS.

36. The f. o. b. value of the exports for the year amounted to £4,683,988, of which £4,093,395 represented the value of local products and manufactures, and £590,593 of re-exports. The value of goods transhipped amounted to £509,988 giving a total export trade of £5,193,976. As compared with 1920 there was a decrease of £3,721,623 in the value of the exports of local products.

37. The value of the exports for the last five years is given below, the products of the Colony being shown separately from re-exports and transit goods:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
Local Produce ...	4,029,755	3,559,201	5,064,427	7,435,361	4,093,395
Re-exports ...	713,091	1,016,003	1,229,059	973,250	590,593
Total ...	4,742,846	4,575,204	6,293,486	8,408,611	4,683,988
Transit Goods ...	566,150	574,375	963,108	1,007,934	509,988
Total ...	5,308,996	5,149,579	7,256,594	9,416,545	5,193,976

38. Dividing the exports (exclusive of transhipments) into classes, their nature and value were as under:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I—Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	3,662,100	3,158,278	4,586,059	6,987,758	3,317,216
Class II—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Un-manufactured ...	899,135	1,118,005	1,152,742	1,300,457	1,144,258
Class III—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured..	181,535	298,546	448,029	85,077	101,289
Class IV—Miscellaneous and Unclassified ...	76	375	205	2,916	1,541
Class V—Bullion and Specie...	...	...	106,451	32,403	119,684
Total ...	4,742,846	4,575,204	6,293,486	8,408,611	4,683,988

39. The quantity and value of the principal products exported during the year were :—

Asphalt (including Manjak)	...	92,324 tons	... £ 235,460
Bitters	...	33,344 gals.	... 33,390
Cocoa	...	83,560,927 lb.	... 1,522,654
Coconuts	...	21,550,993 nuts	... 114,284
Copra	...	4,196,703 lb.	... 61,989
Molasses	...	60,729 gals.	... 2,346
Rum	...	162,337 gals.	... 58,552
Sugar	...	46,149 tons	... 1,458,514
Petroleum, Crude and Fuel	...	37,802,152 gals.	... 462,447
Petrol Spirit	...	2,763,435 gals.	... 173,427
Refined Kerosene	...	2,023,991 gals.	... 93,149

40. The following table gives the direction of the export trade for the last five years :—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
U. Kingdom	1,946,609 41·0%	2,085,726 45·6%	2,444,447 38·8%	3,695,041 43·94%	1,899,004 40·54%
Canada	273,345 5·8	225,352 5·0	185,246 2·6	194,780 2·32	385,584 8·23
O. B. Possessions	150,512 3·2	279,152 6·1	316,157 5·0	391,072 4·66	223,142 4·76
United States	1,473,631 31·1	1,423,974 31·2	1,777,632 28·3	2,148,570 25·55	1,336,144 28·53
Venezuela	61,242 1·3	32,299 ·7	166,993 2·6	86,603 1·03	58,394 1·24
France	570,163 12·0	204,989 4·4	985,891 15·7	972,413 11·56	140,997 3·01
Germany	...	...	...	...	...
O. Countries	267,344 5·6	323,712 7·0	437,120 7·0	556,757 6·62	473,149 10·10
Ships' Stores and Bunkers	...	...	...	363,375 4·32	167,674 3·59
Total	4,742,846	4,575,204	6,293,486	8,408,611	4,683,988

41. The United Kingdom holds first place as the Colony's largest purchaser with 40·54 per cent. of the total exports, the United States second place with 28·53 per cent. and Canada third with 8·23 per cent. The exports to the United Kingdom fell from 43·94 per cent. in 1920 to 40·54 per cent. in 1921, while those to the United States rose from 25·55 per cent. to 28·53 per cent. and France fell from 11·56 per cent. to 3·01 per cent.

TOTAL TRADE.

42. The total aggregate trade for the last five years, has been :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1917	4,789,719	5,308,996	10,098,715
1918	5,108,960	5,149,579	10,258,539
1919	6,217,234	7,256,594	13,473,828
1920	9,498,166	9,416,545	18,914,711
1921	7,413,682	5,193,976	12,607,658

SHIPPING..

43. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year at the several ports of entry was 4,462 with a tonnage of 2,818,418 an increase of 587 vessels and an increase of 3,872 tons as compared with 1920. There were 2,249 arrivals of 1,422,607 tons and 2,213 departures of 1,395,811 tons, of which 44.09 per cent. was British, as summarised below :—

	Number.	Tons.		
British Steamers entered	383	855,550		
British Steamers cleared	375	836,974		
British Sailing Vessels				
entered	622	26,631		
Do. cleared	587	23,198		
			Number.	Tons.
Total British	...	...	1,967	1,742,353
Foreign Steamers entered	359	510,676		
Foreign Steamers cleared	359	505,458		
Foreign Sailing Vessels				
entered	885	29,750		
Do. cleared	892	30,181		
Total Foreign	...	...	2,495	1,076,065
Total number and tons	...	...	4,462	2,818,418

AGRICULTURE.

44. The staple agricultural products of the Colony are Cacao, Coconuts and Sugar with its by-products Molasses and Rum. All have been affected by the unusual conditions prevailing in the world's markets. The year was one of the wettest on record, the fall of 75.51 inches at the Botanic Gardens having been surpassed only ten times in 60 years from 1862.

45. *Cacao*.—The exports of cacao in 1921 were the highest on record namely, 75,238,566 lb. nearly 13,000,000 lb. over 1920. Owing to the fall in prices the export value was very little more than half of that of the 1920 crop approximately £1,400,000 against £3,200,000. There were no unusual diseases or pests.

46. *Sugar*.—The sugar crop was 54,933 tons, about 3,500 tons below that of 1920, the shortage being due to heavy rains preventing cartage and reaping. The exports for 1921 were Sugar 46,149 tons, value £1,458,514; Molasses 60,729 gallons, value £2,346; Rum 162,337 gallons, value £58,552.

47. The considerable success achieved in the campaign waged against the mosaic disease gives reason to hope that with continued watchfulness and the co-operation of the planters, large and small, the disease will be prevented from doing any considerable harm in the future. Very little damage was done by the froghopper owing to the prevalence of parasites whose survival was favoured by the mildness of the dry season. Attention is being chiefly given now to the investigation of soil conditions, as attacks by froghoppers are apparently very largely encouraged by soil conditions.

48. *Coconuts*.—The exports in 1921 were 20,484,238 nuts and 4,196,703 lb. copra valued at £108,725 and £61,989 respectively. Taking as usual one pound of copra as the equivalent of three nuts the exports were approximately 33,000,000 nuts compared with 39,000,000 nuts in 1920. The low prices caused a fall in value from £416,575 to £172,077. The red ring disease is still troublesome on young plantations, and the local epidemics of bud rot have needed attention. Research work on coconut diseases is being actively pursued.

49. *Rubber*.—There is every indication that conditions in Trinidad are eminently suited to the success of Hevea. The leaf disease which has been disastrous in South America has no serious effects here. On the small area which exists under this cultivation tapping has been stopped for the time being owing to the unremunerative price.

50. *Limes*.—The prospect of extending the cultivation of the lime industry is very poor owing to the general prevalence of the wither tip or blossom blight disease. The work of

eradicating the disease was undertaken in Tobago, and the Department is endeavouring to introduce into Trinidad varieties which may prove resistant or immune.

51. *Food Supply.*—The Ground Provisions Dépôt has continued to be of practical benefit to both producers and consumers, and has developed into a business with receipts for 1921 of over £1,000 a month, the total for the year being £12,024 16s. 10½d. The kiln drying, milling and storage plant at the Government Farm continues to be of great utility for the Farm itself, for the Dépôt and for the public. Vegetable prize competitions were held to stimulate interest in vegetable growing.

52. *Stock.*—During the year the Department of Agriculture imported a Red Poll bull from England and pure bred Berkshire boars from Barbados for the improvement of stock in the Colony. A Catalonian jack donkey for mule breeding was purchased locally.

53. *Agricultural Credit Societies.*—There were thirty-one societies in operation at the end of 1921. Twenty-one in Trinidad and ten in Tobago. These societies are proving of immense help to the peasantry.

54. *Tobago.*—With the fall in prices the agricultural exports of Tobago were of considerably less value than in 1920, being £90,287 in 1921 compared with £146 565 in 1920. In quantity, cacao has slightly improved on the record year 1919, 2,136,048 lb. compared with 2,114,710 lb. Coconuts and copra together for the first time reached over 4,000,000 nuts. Ground provisions 1,951,000 lb. compared with 1,199,154 lb. in 1920. Sugar has fallen considerably and bay oil and rubber disappeared. With the live stock there has been little important change excepting a considerable reduction in the number of horses exported.

55. *Department of Agriculture.*—The staff of the new Department has been increased by the appointment of a Mycologist and an Economic Botanist. Work on the new Central Offices of the Department, which had reached an advanced stage, has been suspended pending improvement in the financial position of the Colony.

56. *Agricultural Map of the Colony.*—An agricultural map of Tobago was prepared by the Department of Agriculture and the Survey Department, supplementing the map of Trinidad issued last year.

57. *General.*—Agricultural depression owing to low prices and short crops has necessitated the institution by the Government of a scheme for the relief of agriculturists by providing advances for the payment of mortgage interest and for the working of estates. This scheme may later develop into an

agricultural bank. In connection with the above arrangements protection was given to the owners of mortgaged properties by the institution of a temporary moratorium affecting agricultural mortgages.

FORESTS.

58. The area of forest land in the Colony is 1,118 square miles of Crown Land (exclusive of some small areas of private land still under forest), of which 1,098 square miles, or 98.22 per cent. is under commercial timber. The area set aside as Forest Reserves is 337.94 square miles or nearly 17 per cent. of the total area of the Colony. The Reserves are designed principally for the protection of the water supply, the preservation of favourable climatic influences and the maintenance of suitable breeding places for the bird and insect friends of Agriculture which are so necessary for its welfare. For the most part the Reserves are situated on the sources of the streams in hilly or mountainous land. Some are designed as wind-breaks and the others on poor land unfit for cultivation.

59. Within the Forest Reserves there are now 1,121 acres or 1.75 square miles of plantations containing nearly 326,000 planted trees. Of these 89 per cent. are indigenous species including 147,000 Cedar (*Cedrela odorata*. L.), 65,000 Poui (*Tecoma serratifolia*. Don.), 64,000 Cypre (*Cordia gerascanthus*. Jacq.), 9,000 Balsam (*Copaifera officinalis*. Jacq.) and 5,000 of other species, while the remaining 11 per cent. are exotic species including 27,000 Teak (*Tectona grandis*. L.). The Teak was first introduced from Burma in 1913, some of the trees now being nearly 70 feet high and over 3 feet in girth; the older trees are producing fertile seed in sufficient quantities for supplying the new plantations annually made as well as limited demands from places outside the Colony.

60. In addition to the plantations, Improvement Fellings have been made over 5,890 acres or 9.2 square miles for the purpose of increasing the stock of seedlings of the more valuable indigenous species. The results of this operation so far attained are very promising.

61. The cut of timber of all kinds from Crown Lands during 1921 is estimated at 1,442,000 cubic feet, of which about 143,000 cubic feet is estimated to have been used as firewood. These figures do not include wood cut from private lands, the quantities of which, though comparatively small, cannot be calculated. About two-thirds of the total cut of timber was utilised by the Petroleum industry; none was exported. Two wood cutting concessions, covering 12,000 acres, are held by sawmill concerns that turn out lumber for local use; only one was operated during the year. Sixteen concessions, covering

about 24,000 acres, are held by petroleum companies and are operated for the benefit of that industry. About 5,000 licences, mostly for less than 20 trees each and covering areas distributed throughout the Colony, were granted during the year.

62. The Forest Revenue for 1921 amounted to £10,290 and Expenditure to £7,459, leaving a surplus of income over expenditure of £2,831. The total surplus for the past 12 years now amounts to £37,180.

MINES.

63. *General.*—The chief mineral industry of the Colony is Petroleum, although other minerals such as gold, silver, iron, coal, graphite and gypsum are known to occur.

64. In 1856 a company operating at La Brea in the vicinity of the celebrated Pitch Lake, refined Local Asphalt for lamp and lubricating oils. From then to 1908 various attempts were made to obtain oil with varying success. In 1908 the new Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company drilled one of the first big wells, and in 1910 this Company exported the first steamship cargo of oil from the Island. The total production of petroleum in 1908 was approximately 6,000 gallons, in 1912, 15,300,000 gallons and in 1921, 82,395,595 gallons.

65. A certain amount of drilling for oil has also been done in Tobago, but so far without success.

66. Practically all the Petroleum produced in Trinidad has been obtained from strata of Tertiary age, the Island being separated geologically into two parts by an East to West fault passing near Matura in the East to Port-of-Spain in the West. North of this fault is the Metamorphic area and South the covering of Tertiaries. The chief features of the Tertiary structure are: A synclinal or monoclinal trough between the Central and Northern Mountain Ranges: an anticlinal uplift along the South side of the Central range striking in the direction Pointe-à-Pierre to Nariva Swamp and an undulating area between San Fernando, Mayaro Point, Guayaguayare Bay and Iacos Point with an East-West strike containing several zones of anticlinal and synclinal folding. These numerous local folds are important in the concentration of Petroleum. The Specific Gravities of the crude oil vary on the different fields from an average of 0.9553 to 0.8015.

67. At the end of 1921 there were twenty Companies actively engaged in the exploitation of oil in the Colony. These Companies held approximately 100,000 acres under lease and had a total share capital of over £10,000,000. This acreage does not include lands held under exploration and prospecting licenses. Forty-nine wells were drilled on Crown Lands and thirty-five on private lands with a footage drilled of 70,710 on Crown and 46,150 on private lands during the year. The total

number of wells drilled to date on Crown Lands is 362 and on private lands 245, making a total of 607 wells drilled in the Colony. The industry provides employment for nearly 5,000 men.

68. The total quantity of oil produced during 1921 was 82,395,595 Imperial gallons, an increase of 9,489,648 as compared with 1920. Of this total 61,325,279 gallons were from Crown Lands or lands in which the oil rights belonged to the Crown. The quantity exported amounted to 42,558,408 gallons valued at £725,697, as against 36,254,174 at £656,783 in 1920. The Royalty paid by operating Companies on oil won from Crown rights during the year amounted to £20,003, as against £18,710 in 1920, an increase of £1,293. The wayleaves amounted to £5,814, as compared to £4,651 in 1920. In addition to Petroleum the following were produced during the year: Asphalt 119,729 tons of an approximate value of £149,661; Road Building material 227,244 tons valued at £39,335. The Revenue derived from Asphalt was £39,711, as compared to £47,707 in 1920.

69. The principal Oil Companies engaged in the work of Oil development are the Trinidad Leaseholds Limited from Crown Lands held under lease at Fyzabad and elsewhere, and from private lands at Barrackpore, &c.; the United British Oilfields of Trinidad Limited, partly from Crown and partly from their own at Point Fortin and elsewhere; the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company Limited, from their own lands at Brighton; the Petroleum Development Company Limited, from Crown Lands held under lease in the Ward of Oropuche; the Trinidad Central Oilfields Limited, from Crown Lands at Tabaquite. There are still large areas of Crown Lands held under License by the Trinidad Petroleum Development Company Limited, and the Trinidad Central Oilfields Limited, upon which geological surveys are still being carried out. Certain portions of these areas will eventually be taken up under lease. The total area of Crown Lands held by Companies under lease, prospecting and exploration licenses, aggregates some 375,100 acres. Four important refineries are engaged in the distillation of Petroleum into its various products, while a few small topping plants produce petrol, distillate and residual oils.

LAND.

70. The lands of the Colony can be divided into two classes viz:—Those which are vested in the Crown and those which have already been alienated. Crown Land is alienated by Royal Grant under the hand of the Governor and Seal of the Colony. The alienation of Crown Lands can be again sub-divided into those sold under freehold title, for agricultural purposes, and those held from the Crown on leasehold for 199 and 999 years for building purposes in residential areas, such as Port-of-Spain, St. Joseph and the new village of La Brea. Lands for

agricultural purposes are sold on petition made to the Governor as Intendant of Crown Lands at the following rates : £2 10s. 0d. per acre not exceeding 20 acres : £3 15s. 0d. per acre exceeding 20 acres but not exceeding 100 acres : exceeding 100 acres at not less than £5 per acre except in special instances and by permission of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. These prices include the cost of Survey, Registration and Grant. No purchaser of agricultural land can be permitted to buy more than one parcel of land at a time nor can he submit a further petition for additional land, until at least half the land already purchased is brought under cultivation, except with the permission of the Intendant. Four hundred and sixty-four Grants and Leases of an acreage of 2,614 of a total value of £7,435 were issued during the year. The Land Regulations of the 24th of December, 1917, prescribed the mode of application, conditions of sale, and price of Crown Lands. The area of Crown Land remaining unsold on 31st December, 1921, was :—

Trinidad	572,993 acres.
Tobago	16,450 do.
<hr/>			
			589,443 acres,
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a great deal of which is in Forest Reserves or under License to Oil Companies.

71. Alienated land varies in value according to its situation and fertility, and the nature and condition of the cultivation. The following may be taken as average values of properly cultivated land :—

Land with Cocoa (full bearing)	...	£40 per acre.
Do. Coconuts (full bearing)	...	70 do.
Do. Canes	...	25 do.
Do. Other products or cleared for cultivation	£10 and 20	do.

72. Land alienated from the Crown prior to 1902 is held under a Grant, extant or presumed, from either the Spanish or the British Crown according to the date of its alienation. In these older Grants the reservations vary considerably, and in the oldest British Grants the terms are conditional. The Grants issued since 1869 contain the following reservation :—

The right to resume for works of public utility and convenience 1/20 part of the land granted, except any land on which buildings have been erected, or which may be in use as gardens or otherwise for the more convenient occupation of such buildings.

From 1869 to 1889: All precious metals and coal were reserved to the Crown.

From 1889 to January, 1902: All precious metals or coals, together with Asphalt in certain areas, were reserved.

From January, 1902 to 1910: All precious metals, coal, oil and other minerals (except Asphalt) were reserved.

From 1910: All precious metals, coal, oil and other mineral are reserved.

A Crown Grant issued since January, 1902, is registered free of charge to the Grantee under the provisions of the Real Property Ordinance, a statute which embodies the principles of the Torrens system of Land registration, and the Grant becomes the Certificate of Title guaranteed by the Crown.

73. The mineral rights of the Crown can be leased or licensed as follows: Under Exploration and Prospecting Licenses or Mining Lease. A petition for an Exploration should describe the land required, giving the approximate acreage and boundaries and be accompanied by a deposit of £2. The License is granted at the discretion of the Intendant and grants the holder the right to explore or examine the surface of any lands on which the Crown has oil and mineral rights. The License is usually for one or two years and can be an exclusive one; it is issued for the purpose of enabling the licensee to select an area over which to apply for a Prospecting License. Such License is issued on the payment of £5 and the sum of 1/- per acre. The holder of a Prospecting License is entitled to enter upon the land named in the License for two years with exclusive power to search in any part of it for the product or products named, to set up works, sink wells and export the produce subject however to the payment of such rates and duties as may be imposed by law upon such produce. If necessary, and provided the Governor considers the licensee has carried out the terms of his contract, the License may be extended for a period not exceeding a further two years. At the end or sooner determination of the period of the Prospecting License a Mining Lease may be granted over so much of the land held under License as the Governor may consider necessary for the purpose of erection of works, buildings, etc., for the continuation of the operations, at an annual rent to be agreed upon, and the licensee also has the privilege of leasing the crude oil or minerals underlying or upon such portion of the lands which has been held under the License as the licensee may select for a term of 21 years; this period may be extended, subject to such payment by way of rent or royalty as the Governor may approve. The lands held under Mining Lease must be first surveyed and all expenses of surveys and fees of grant or registration must be paid by the applicant together with a fee of £5 for expenses in connection with the lease.

74. The number of applications received for licenses to explore and prospect for oil during 1921 was 31, and there were no applications for Mining Leases.

LEGISLATION.

75. Seventy Ordinances were passed during the year 1921.

76. The following are the more important of those which are likely to be of interest outside the Colony :—

Nos. 3 and 44. The Maintenance orders (facilities for enforcement) Ordinance, provide for the enforcement in this Colony of maintenance orders made in England and Ireland. Power is given to the Governor to extend the Ordinance to maintenance orders made in any British possession.

No. 5. The Prevention of Corruption Ordinance, adapts the provisions of certain English Acts relating to corrupt practices.

No. 8. The Customs Duties Ordinance, corrects errors in the tariff of duties imposed by Ordinance 40 of 1920.

No. 16. The Cocoa (import and export) Ordinance, provides for the control of cocoa imported into the Colony for re-exportation, in order to ensure that such cocoa should be shipped distinct from cocoa the produce of the Colony.

No. 36. The Aliens (Landholding regulation) Ordinance, provides that, with certain exceptions, aliens and companies under alien control may not hold land or any interest in or mortgage on land in this Colony except with the licence of the Governor. The Ordinance does not apply to the estate or interest of an alien in land held by him when the Ordinance came into operation, nor to land not exceeding 5 acres in area held on an annual tenancy for the purposes of residence, trade or business. Aliens who acquire land under a will or intestacy are allowed a year to dispose of the land or obtain a licence. The Governor is empowered to grant licences to aliens to be directors of, to hold shares in and to vote at meetings of a company. No person may, without licence, hold any land or mortgage or any shares or debentures of any company incorporated in the Colony in trust for an alien.

No. 40. The Tax on Incomes (Amendment) Ordinance, (No. 2), provides for relief where income tax for 1921 has been paid in the Colony on income on which income tax has been paid in the United Kingdom.

No. 43. The Former Enemy Aliens (Amendment) Ordinance, provides that the term "former enemy alien" shall have the same meaning as in the Aliens Restriction (Amendment) Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

No. 50. The Judgments Extension Ordinance, adapts to local conditions Part II of the Administration of Justice Act, 1920, of the Imperial Parliament. This Ordinance provides that judgments obtained in a superior Court in the United Kingdom may be enforced by the Supreme Court here. Where a judgment has been obtained in the Supreme Court here, the Court may issue a certified copy thereof, and under the Administration of Justice Act such certified copy may be used for registering and enforcing the judgment in the United Kingdom. Provision is made to enable the Governor to extend the Ordinance to judgments obtained in other colonies.

No. 51. The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, declares the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorized to be raised in England by the Colonial Government and provides for the creation of Trinidad and Tobago Inscribed Stock.

No. 57. The Custodian of Enemy Property (direction) Ordinance provides that all enemy property held by the Custodian of Enemy Property here shall be liable to the charges imposed by the various Treaty of Peace Orders.

Nos. 65 and 66. The Mortgages Extension and the Agricultural Relief Ordinances, were passed to deal with a state of emergency brought about by the serious fall in the market value of the agricultural produce of the Colony. Ordinance No. 65 suspends until the 30th June, 1923 the powers of mortgagees:

- (1) to demand payment of the sum secured;
- (2) to exercise a power of sale over, or the right of entering into possession of or of appointing a receiver over, a plantation;
- (3) to commence or continue an action for breach of covenant to pay the sum secured, or an action for any penal rate of interest.

Provided that at any time after 30th June, 1922, the Supreme Court may grant leave for the exercise of any of such powers if interest is unpaid for more than six months.

Ordinance No. 66 provides for advances from public funds to owners to enable them to maintain their estates in cultivation during the period of depression.

No. 68. The Customs Ordinance, consolidates and amends the law of the Colony relating to Customs other than Customs duties. The Ordinance has not yet been brought into operation.

EDUCATION.

77. At the close of the year under review there were 292 elementary schools in the Colony, viz.: 49 Government and 243 Assisted Schools, of which 94 were Roman Catholic, 56 Church of England, 69 Canadian Mission, 12 Wesleyan, 11 Moravian and 1 Baptist.

78. The number of pupils on the roll in December, 1921, was 55,027, of whom 30,180 were boys and 24,847 girls. The daily average attendance was 29,022 or 52.74 per cent. of those on the Roll. As compared with the previous year an increase of 4,646 on the roll and 1,216 in average attendance was shown, which shows that the recovery from war distress is continuing.

79. During the year 95 candidates sat for the Board of Education Exhibitions. Exhibitions were awarded to 8, making a total number of 43 Exhibitioners who were being educated at Queen's Royal College and St. Mary's College at 31st December. There were 23 students in Training Schools at the same date, exclusive of private students making a total of 47 all of whom sat for the Teachers' Certificate Examination in March; of this number 34 passed, being 72.34 per cent. of those examined.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

80. The following Colleges afford facilities for the higher education of boys:—the Queen's Royal College and its affiliated institutions, the St. Mary's College in Port-of-Spain, and the Naparima College in San Fernando. The St. Joseph Convent in Port-of-Spain, which is also affiliated to the Queen's Royal College, provides similar education for girls. The number of pupils on the roll at 31st December were:—

Queen's Royal College	...	...	190
St. Mary's College	...	...	401
Naparima College	...	...	87
St. Joseph's Convent School	...	...	434
Total	...	...	1,112

81. The Queen's Royal College and its affiliated Colleges are examined annually in July. The lower forms are examined by the Cambridge University Examinations Syndicate, and their report is published in the *Royal Gazette*. The Upper and Lower Sixth Forms are examined by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, being entered for the Higher and School Certificate Examinations respectively, while the pupils of the Fifth Form are entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination.

82. Five hundred and forty-six pupils of the Lower Forms sat for examination in July, 1921; one hundred and twenty pupils of the Fifth Form sat for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, while twenty-seven candidates entered for the School Certificate and twenty-nine for the Higher Certificate Examinations. Two Scholarships not exceeding £700 each, tenable at a University in the British Empire, or other scientific or technical Institution to be approved of by the College Council, were awarded on the result of the Higher Certificate Examination. The number of Scholarships has been reduced to two annually, one of which is an Agricultural Scholarship. Fourteen Higher Certificates were gained. The number of School Certificates awarded was fifteen. Eighty-nine candidates passed the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, twenty-one gaining honours, six of whom were placed in the First Class, while thirty-five distinctions in different subjects were gained.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

83. The work of the Board of Industrial Training under Ordinance 14 of 1906 was carried on during the year, at the close of which there were on its books 2,584 Registered Artisans, 64 Registered Masters and 116 Registered Apprentices. In 1920 there were 158 Registered Apprentices, and the Board is of opinion that the decrease is not so much due to the falling off of apprentices as to the failure of certain masters to register apprentices, especially in the country districts where it is difficult to follow boy-labour in trades. The technical educational work of the Board continued to be suspended during the year on account of the destruction by fire of the Victoria Institute and of all the equipment of the Board, and also the inability to get trained evening instructors with the funds at the Board's disposal. The Board in April of this year expressed to the Government the opinion that a technical school should be established in Port-of-Spain under the entire control of the Government aided by a Technical Advisory Committee. An annual grant of £650 is received by the Board, a considerable amount of which is spent on Trade Bursaries and for the purposes of examination papers from the City and Guilds of London Institute. An application from the Board for an increased grant had to be refused by the Government during the year.

84. The Board is also entrusted with the administration of an institution for the Instruction of the Blind towards which the sum of £250 (an increase of £50) is contributed by the Government towards current account, for which voluntary subscriptions amounting to £364 3s. 1d. were collected during the year. Instruction is given in Braille Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, while men are taught Basket-making and Chair-caning and women Knitting and Sewing. There are 40 male and female students. The Building Fund of this work

is kept entirely separate from current account, and early in the year the Board reported that the debt on the premises of £560 had been paid off by public subscription, and £552 8s. 8d. invested in the name of the Fund, principally in Government Debentures. The Government has not contributed to the purchase of the Building or the Building Fund, but during the year granted £150 to the Board for special work in the education and maintenance of destitute blind children.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

(a)—RAILWAYS.

85. The Trinidad Government Railway now consists (1) of the Port-of-Spain-Arima-Sangre Grande line running 29 miles along the southern foot of the northern range of hills to within eight miles of the eastern coast: (2) the San Fernando-Siparia line, 44 miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-Arima-Sangre Grande line at St. Joseph Junction, (7 miles from Port-of-Spain) and following roughly the western coast of the Colony, total distance Port-of-Spain to Siparia, 51 miles: (3) the Caparo Valley line, 28½ miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-San Fernando-Siparia line at Jerningham Junction, (14½ miles from Port-of-Spain) and running in a generally south-eastern direction, total distance from Port-of-Spain 43 miles: (4) the Guaracara line, 10 miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-San Fernando-Siparia line at Marabella Junction (33 miles from Port-of-Spain) and running in an easterly direction to Princes Town, total distance from Port-of-Spain, 43 miles, and (5) the Cipro Tramway, another route from San Fernando to Princes Town, length with branches, 13½ miles. The doubling of the line between Port-of-Spain and St. Joseph Junction (7½ miles) is being carried out: the remainder of the line is single line. The total length of the system is 123 miles, of which about 8 miles are leased to other interests. The Railway is of standard (4'-8½") gauge.

86. The railways afford communication for passengers over all lines three times a day, and goods trains once a day. A suburban service of trains is run between Port-of-Spain and Tacarigua, giving a service of 6 to 8 trains daily each way.

87. In connection with the railway, two small, fast steamers make five trips a week between San Fernando and La Brea, (near the celebrated Pitch Lake), the Oilfields, Cedros, and to the south-western point of the Island at Icacos, stopping at eight intermediate places along the coast, and carrying passengers, mails and goods. Another steamer makes six trips a week each way between Port-of-Spain and the Bocas entrance to the Gulf, including the Islands to the West of Port-of-Spain.

88. The railway stations are in telegraphic or telephonic communication one with the other on all parts of the system, and there is a telephone line south-west of San Fernando along the steamer route, giving a total length of 114 miles of telegraph and about 55 miles of telephone lines. There is also a service telephone along the Cipero Section between San Fernando and Princes Town.

(b)—CABLE.

89. The communication by cable with the United Kingdom, Europe and other parts of the world is through the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's duplicate cable system, which are the only cable lines from Trinidad. Both cables on leaving Trinidad touch at Grenada where they separate until they meet again at St. Lucia, Porto Rico, Jamaica and terminate at Santiago, Cuba, where the Company hand over their traffic to the Cuba Submarine Company who in turn at Havana hand over to the Western Union Telegraph Company which has a duplicate cable system to New York.

90. The shorter and more direct cable between Trinidad and Santiago, Cuba, touches at the Island of St. Croix (with a branch line to St. Thomas).

91. The other cable on leaving Grenada serves St. Vincent, (with a branch duplicate line to Barbados) St. Lucia, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Antigua, St. Kitts and St. Thomas and meets its sister cable at Porto Rico and Jamaica, and they both terminate at Santiago, Cuba.

92. The Company's cables connect with the French Cable Company's line at Guadeloupe and Porto Rico, which proceeds to New York *via* Hayti. In addition their lines connect with the Direct West Indian Cable Company's (called the all-British route) Line at Jamaica, which proceeds from there to Bermuda, Halifax and the United Kingdom.

93. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company also have a branch duplicate line between Trinidad and British Guiana.

94. Wireless stations have been erected at Port-of-Spain and Scarborough, Tobago, and owing to the interruptions in the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's Cable, telegraphic communication was maintained during the year by wireless with British Guiana, and from 4th October to 9th November, with the outside world through the Wireless stations at Barbados and Martinique. Services open to the public are now in operation between Trinidad and the Dutch island of St. Martin and Trinidad and Venezuela.

(c)—STEAMSHIP.

95. The following steamship lines call regularly at Trinidad :—

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, London Direct Line, Glasgow Direct Line, Leyland Line, Harrison Line, Compagnie General Transatlantique, Royal Dutch Mail, La Veloce (Navigation Italiana) Trinidad Line, (Furness Withy & Co.), Lamport and Holt, Prince Line and Navigacion Fluvial y Costanera de Venezuela. Mails are regularly forwarded and received by these steamers. In addition there are a number of Steamers calling at the port for bunker coal and oil fuel.

96. There is a weekly Coastal Steamship Service between Trinidad and Tobago by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's subsidized Steamer *Belize*, going every alternate week by the northern and southern routes.

97. The itinerary is as follows :—

Northern Route.—Leaves Port-of-Spain going north on Monday at 9 p.m., and calling at the following shipping places in Trinidad viz, Blanchisseuse, Matelot, Grande Rivière, Sans Souci, and Toco, arriving at Scarborough, Tobago, on Tuesday afternoon; thence goes East around Tobago calling at the following shipping places, Hillsboro, Pembroke, Roxborough, King's Bay, Speyside, Man-o'-War Bay, Parlatuvier, Castara, Plymouth, Mt. Irvine, and Milford, arriving at Scarborough on Thursday, leaving the same day at 8 p.m. for Trinidad calling at Toco and thence to Port-of-Spain direct.

Southern Route.—Leaves Port-of-Spain going south on Monday at 9 p.m., calling at the following shipping places in Trinidad, viz., Moruga, Guayaguayare, St. Margaret's, Plaisance, St. Joseph and Manzanilla from thence direct to Scarborough, Tobago, arriving there on Thursday morning and leaves at noon for Toco, Sans Souci, Grande Rivière, Matelot and Blanchisseuse, arriving at Port-of-Spain on Saturday morning.

(d)—ROADS.

98. The roads of the Colony are divided into main and local roads. The former and 50 per cent. of the latter are under the control of the Director of Public Works. The other local roads are under Local Road Boards. The main roads with a total mileage of 1,074.01 miles—made up of 539.76 miles metal, 307.59 miles gravel or burnt clay, 74.66 miles natural soil cart

roads, and 152.00 miles bridle road—were maintained at a cost of £123,078 1s. 2d. or at an average rate of £114.59 per mile. The local roads, in districts where there are no Local Boards, comprising 651.64 miles—made up of 32.92 miles of gravel or burnt clay and 233.88 miles of soil cart road and 223.24 miles bridle road—at a cost of £31,710 3s. 1d. or at an average rate of £48.66 per mile. In addition there are several miles of Crown Traces in charge of Wardens who are provided with funds to maintain them as rights of way.

99. The road system is being extended gradually but the war interfered seriously with the progress of the work. In 1910 a road scheme to cost £588,663 increased in 1911 to £592,829 was adopted and it provided for completion of works estimated for within 10 years from 1st April, 1911. The outbreak of war in 1914 however completely upset the scheme owing to the difficulty of raising the loan which was necessary to cover a proportion of the cost. Accordingly the arranged programme £530,000 should have been expended by 1919, but only a sum of £298,000 was available. The scheme has since been revised and extended. Under the revised scheme the expenditure provided for amounts to £963,600, of which only £160,000 of this is recommended to be expended immediately. This amount is intended to cover a three years' programme ending in January, 1920.

(e) POSTAL.

100. There is a General Post Office at Port-of-Spain with branch offices at San Fernando and Tobago and 108 outposts throughout the Colony.

101. The rates of postage are as follows, per 1 oz. letter.

Within the Colony	1d.
To United Kingdom, British Possessions and United States	2d.
To other places for 1st oz. 3d. and for each additional ounce 1½d.	

102. Maps of Trinidad and Tobago are attached.

T. A. V. BEST,
Colonial Secretary.

TRINIDAD,
24th August, 1922.

60°30

GILES OR
MELVILLE IS

11°20

LITTLE
TOBAGO

11°10

SURVEY DEPT.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbadoes	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1136.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1110.)



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1922

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No. 1136.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 1921,

WITH FINANCIAL INFORMATION UP TO 31st MARCH, 1922.

Geographical.

British Honduras lies on the Atlantic side of the mainland of Central America within $18^{\circ} 29' 5''$ to $15^{\circ} 53' 55''$ North latitude and $89^{\circ} 9' 22''$ to $88^{\circ} 10'$ West longitude. It is bounded by Yucatan on the north and west and by Guatemala on the west and south. Its greatest length is about 174 miles and width about 68 miles. The total area is 8,598 square miles. The Colony is therefore larger than Wales and slightly smaller than Palestine. It is divided into six Districts, namely, Belize, Corozal, Orange Walk, Stann Creek, Cayo and Toledo. There are numerous islands called cayes off the mainland whose area is about 212 square miles. Some of these are inhabited by fishermen, and on others coconuts are grown, but many of them are mere swamps and are uninhabited.

2. The town of Belize, the capital of the Colony, is approached from the sea by a narrow tortuous channel between reefs which form a natural shelter for vessels lying in the harbour. Vessels have to lie off from the shore between 1 and 4 miles, according to their draught. There is no deep water at or near the Port of Corozal, so that only boats drawing about 4 ft. of water can approach the port. At the town of Stann Creek there is a railway pier alongside of which vessels drawing up to 14 ft. can lie. At Punta Gorda, the chief town in the Toledo District, deep water is found only some miles from the shore. The mainland of the Colony is low and swampy near the coast, but rises inland. The northern half of the Colony is generally flat, but in the south it is hilly and mountainous, rising in the Cockscomb range to a height of 3,700 ft. The country is well watered, and its rivers, which are many, provide the chief means of communication. The soil is rich and

well adapted to the growth of all tropical produce. The climate is, on the whole, healthy and, in Belize, where the trade winds blow, quite pleasant for most of the year.

Historical.

3. It is probable that Columbus discovered the coast about 1502, when on his way from Cuba to find a passage to the Indies. It is also probable that the great Cortez passed through the western part of the Colony on his expedition to Honduras in the year 1524. But long before Columbus and Cortez, long before the Christian era—possibly 5,000 years ago—archæologists say that the inhabitants of this part of the world were sufficiently civilized to have an exact system of chronology. It is even thought nowadays that the civilization of Central America is older than that of Babylon or Assyria.

4. So far as modern history goes, the Colony became known to Englishmen about 1638, probably accidentally through a shipwrecked crew. It is also probable that many years ago people from Jamaica visited the Colony, and, finding logwood abundant and easily accessible, established themselves. Within a very short time of their arrival they must have come in contact with the Spaniards and Indians of Yucatan and the Peten district of Guatemala. There are records of many conflicts between them, but as England was at that time at war with Spain it was natural that the subjects of each King should fight whenever they met in this country. Indeed, long after the Thirty Years' War had ended in Europe, and Spain was our ally against France, conflicts occurred between the subjects of the Kings of England and Spain in this Colony. The Spaniards also made frequent attempts to expel Englishmen who came with their slaves from Jamaica. Help was not wanting from outside. The Governor of Massachusetts on one occasion sent a British warship, the H.M.S. "King George," to help the settlers against their enemies. This was in the year 1667. Help was also received from the Mosquito Coast Indians and the Bay Island settlers. By 1671 the settlement had grown so prosperous that it was reported to King Charles II by the Governor of Jamaica as having "increased His Majesty's Customs and the natural commerce more than any of His Majesty's Colonies." This was no doubt due to the great value of logwood and mahogany.

5. By 1713 there was a settled form of government carried on by magistrates elected by the inhabitants. In 1717 the Board of Trade asserted the absolute right of Great Britain to cut logwood. In the next year the Spaniards made a determined effort to conquer the settlement and got as far as "Spanish Lookout" on the Belize River, which they fortified. Again in 1754 another attempt was made and defeated "principally by slaves" at a place called Labouring Creek. In 1779 St. George's Caye was attacked and a great many settlers were captured, ill-treated and carried off to Merida and thence to Havana, but were subsequently allowed to

return. In 1786, by the Treaty of London, Great Britain agreed with Spain to give up the Mosquito Coast in exchange for the settlement from the Belize River to the Sibun including the lands lying between the two rivers, and St. George's Caye, but this was not agreeable to the Spaniards, and they continued their attacks from Mexico until finally beaten on the 10th September, 1798, at St. George's Caye.

6. From that time until about 1849 there was peace, but in that year the Indians in Yucatan rebelled against their Spanish oppressors and many were driven across the Hondo and settled in the northern half of this Colony, and from the year 1867, when Mexico declared itself a republic and threw off the yoke of Spain, the Indians of Yucatan continued to make repeated attacks on the Colony until the year 1872.

Constitution.

7. The first settlers from 1638 to 1786 managed their own affairs. Persons were annually elected to act as magistrates at public meetings held for the purpose. These magistrates discharged all executive and judicial functions. Resolutions were passed at public meetings and they formed the laws binding on the community. In 1756 these customs were formally recognized by the King's Government, after the visit of Admiral Sir William Burnaby to the settlement in that year. The customs of the settlers were codified and published, and became known as "Burnaby's Laws."

8. In 1876 a Superintendent was appointed by the Home Government, but during the years 1790–1797 elected magistrates again ruled the settlements. From this latter date superintendents were regularly appointed until 1862. An Executive Council was established in 1839 to assist the Superintendent, and in 1853 a Legislative Assembly was formally constituted, consisting of eighteen elected and three nominated members. The settlement was declared a colony on 12th May, 1862, and a Lieutenant-Governor was appointed subordinate to the Governor of Jamaica. In 1870 the Legislative Assembly was abolished by a local enactment, and a Legislative Council substituted therefor, consisting of five official and not less than four unofficial members, with the Lieutenant-Governor as President. Since 1913 the Council contains five official and seven unofficial members. On 31st October, 1884, Letters Patent were proclaimed constituting the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief, which rendered the Colony independent of Jamaica. These were renewed by Letters Patent proclaimed on 10th September, 1909.

9. The English Common Law and all statutes of the Imperial Parliament, "in abrogation or derogation, or in any way declaratory of the Common Law," passed before 1899, extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable, and subject to modification by Colonial ordinances. Pursuant to Ordinance No. 9 of 1913, a revised edition of the Consolidated

Laws has been published in two volumes. This edition came into force on 14th January, 1915, and supersedes the edition published in 1887 and all ordinances passed before June 1914. Appeals to His Majesty in Council are regulated by Chapter 16 of the Consolidated Laws.

10. The Executive Council consists of the Governor and six members, three of whom are *ex officio*, the other three appointed members.

11. For Administrative purposes the Colony is divided into six Districts: Belize, which includes the capital at the mouth of the river of the same name; the Corozal District; the Orange Walk District; the Cayo District; the Stann Creek District; and the Toledo District, the main station of which is Punta Gorda, comprising the extreme south of the Colony.

12. A Commissioner is appointed to each district, who exercises the usual functions of that office.

Local Administration.

13. Under Chapter 87 of the Consolidated Laws (Revised Edition) there is a District Board, nominated by the Governor, in each district. These boards have jurisdiction over sanitation and public health, markets, slaughter-houses, traffic regulation, naming, numbering and lighting of places and streets in any town within their districts, building construction, etc. Their revenues are mainly derived from property taxes, liquor and other licences, rents and fees.

14. There is a partly nominated and partly elective Town Board in the town of Belize, established under Chapter 89 of the Consolidated Laws (Revised Edition). The Board exercises all the functions of a District Board, and its jurisdiction extends to and includes St. George's Caye, Caye Caulker and Ambergris Caye.

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

15. While 1921 cannot be described as a prosperous year, the Colony and its inhabitants have not had much to complain of and indeed have had much to be thankful for. There was not a great deal of money in circulation and what there was had to be judiciously expended. Prices of imported foodstuffs, as well as those of local commodities, continued high. Coming immediately after years of plenty the scarcity of money had a depressing effect. The low prices paid for chicle and the reduction in the export of over one million pounds as compared with the figures of the preceding year lessened considerably the amount of money in circulation. In the Cayo District only two hundred labourers were signed on for chicle bleeding instead of about seven hundred—the usual number. Many of those who were unemployed grew corn, which in consequence was plentiful and comparatively cheap.

The distribution of labour employment other than for chicle bleeding in the year was as follows:—

District.	Mahogany.	Agriculture	Other.	Total.
Toledo	37	55	Nil.	92
Cayo	—	1	1	2
Belize	864	10	153	1,027
Corozal	—	152	—	152
Stann Creek	27	1	—	28
Orange Walk	29	29	6	64

16. Owing to the reduced cultivation on many of the banana farms through the presence of Panama disease in the Stann Creek District many of the labourers emigrated to Honduras, attracted there by high wages. These men will probably return to the Colony in course of time and, for the present, they in most cases remit money for the support of their families.

Poverty as known in some other countries fortunately does not exist in this Colony. Work is always near at hand for those who want it and will accept a reasonable wage. The average wages were, for mahogany cutting \$14.00 a month plus rations, for agriculture \$10.00 a month, for other work \$11.50 a month.

17. The year 1921 brought little joy to the merchant and man of business. Stocks bought in a high market had to be cleared in a falling one.

18. His Excellency the Governor resumed the administration of the Government on his return from leave on the 2nd January.

19. On the 14th February, a telegram was received from the Right Honourable Winston Churchill, M.P., saying that His Majesty had appointed him to be Secretary of State for the Colonies.

20. A Harbour Board was constituted under Proclamation No. 3 on the 23rd March, with the Governor as Chairman, to control the improvement, lighting and regulating of the Harbours of the Colony.

21. The Canada-West Indies Agreement granting preference to Colony products in Canada and Canadian goods in this Colony was proclaimed to take effect from 1st September. The amount of preference to Canadian goods was not to exceed 66½ per cent. The Canadian Government further undertook to provide a freight mail and passenger steamship service to the Colony fortnightly, and the Colony undertook to contribute a sum not exceeding £5,000 in the event of the service becoming a pecuniary loss. The Agreement is in force for ten years unless terminated by twelve months' written notice on either side.

22. The official termination of the War was fixed for 1st September, 1921, except with the Ottoman Empire.

23. In the month of August there was a slight outbreak of yellow fever in the town of Belize and there was one case in the town of Stann Creek. Both places were declared to be infected in November. An Executive Commission was appointed to deal with the disease on the 11th October. On this Commission sat representatives of the Rockefeller Foundation. The Colony is under great obligations to that Foundation for its assistance in stamping out the disease. In the month of October the Governor appointed a Commission consisting of the Acting Chief Justice as Chairman, the Hon. J. Cran, M.D., O.B.E., V.D., the Hon. Sydney Cuthbert and F. R. Dragten, Esq., to enquire into (a) the origin of the outbreak, (b) the circumstances attending it, and (c) the sanitary condition of the town of Belize. The Commission had not reported the result of its enquiries when the year closed.

24. In August news was received that the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, would visit this Colony and the West Indies. Great expectations were looked for as a result of his visit. Most unfortunately, the outbreak of yellow fever caused him to cancel his visit. Much disappointment was felt at the decision. One of the questions it was intended to submit to him was that of a change in the political constitution of the Colony. A Resolution was moved in Legislative Council by the Senior Unofficial Member on the 8th November to the effect that the time had come to provide either for a partly or entirely elective principle of representation, and that a Commission be appointed to advise the Governor with a view to approaching His Majesty the King on the subject. The Resolution was accepted by the Governor as being the unanimous opinion of the Unofficial Members of Council.

25. State Portraits of Their Majesties were presented to the Colony and were hung at Government House pending the erection of a new Council Chamber.

26. The Standard Time adopted is six hours slow on Greenwich Mean Time. From the 1st November to the 15th March the clock was advanced forty-five minutes in order to afford longer opportunities for recreation in the afternoons.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

27. No records are kept. Emigration to the neighbouring Republics of men in search of work is believed to be only temporary. There has been no perceptible immigration into the Colony either from West Indian Colonies or from neighbouring Republics.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

28. The only outstanding feature during the year was an outbreak of yellow fever. This occurred in August at Loyola Park, a Roman Catholic College situated about a mile from the town of Belize, and having at that time over one hundred day scholars from Belize and about one hundred boarders drawn mostly from Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and San Salvador.

29. Three suspicious cases were reported by the College Physician and were diagnosed the same day by Dr. Gann, the Principal Medical Officer, as yellow fever. They were immediately removed to the hospital, where one died the same evening, the autopsy fully confirming the diagnosis. The next day two more cases were reported, and from the 19th to the 25th August fourteen cases in all occurred. This proved it to be a secondary infection. The first case developed on the 14th August, so there must have been one or more infected mosquitoes at some date prior to the 29th of July. This corresponds to the time when the boarders were returning from their vacation. Yellow fever therefore was undoubtedly introduced from outside as no case had occurred in the Colony since 1905.

30. In 1920 and 1921 it was prevalent in Guatemala and San Salvador and it still exists in Mexico. Probably an ambulatory case arrived amongst the boys so slight as to be unrecognized. The authorities took prompt action. The College was quarantined and the buildings fumigated, but as further cases occurred the whole of the inmates were removed to an isolation station on one of the islands, with the result that no more cases occurred and all were returned on the 23rd September. Three isolated cases occurred in Belize, the last on the 13th November.

31. The infection undoubtedly reached the town, and it is surprising that more cases did not occur amongst a large non-immune population many of whom were particularly susceptible. That such did not occur is, in the opinion of the Principal Medical Officer, due to the Noguchi vaccine which was supplied gratis by the Rockefeller Foundation and largely used, particularly amongst the susceptible class. The serum also undoubtedly reduced the death-rate amongst the sufferers.

32. In response to an invitation by the Government two representatives of the Rockefeller International Board of Health arrived on the 29th September from Guatemala to assist in the preventive measures to be taken against the disease. An energetic campaign was at once commenced, with the result that the "House Index" was reduced by the end of December to nearly the safety limit. But it is costly work and at the best of a temporary nature. Belize is swampy and has no natural drainage. It is entirely dependent on rain-water for its water supply.

33. The screening of the water vats, barrels and other containers quickly becomes defective, due to the rapid deterioration of the wire screening and the carelessness of the inhabitants. The only permanent solution of the danger is an adequate pipe water supply and the raising of the low-lying parts of the town—the latter of which will also help to eradicate malarial fever.

34. One of the greatest problems of the Colony is how to banish malaria. It is the pivot on which all public health problems balance. Every industry and occupation is greatly handicapped by its ravages. As Dr. Wise, in writing of British Guiana,

says, "It is a blight on the land. People are poisoned with it at birth and live in infancy and childhood with a millstone around their necks."

35. The untiring efforts to eradicate the *Stegomyia* mosquito that carries the yellow fever germ have had some effect in reducing the breeding places of the *Anopheles* that convey malaria.

36. It is hoped that in the near future, with the institution of a Health Commission and the strong anti-mosquito campaign undertaken by the Medical Authorities with the assistance of an expert Sanitary Inspector, there will be an improvement in the sanitary state of affairs in the Colony.

VITAL STATISTICS.

37. In this year a census of the population has been taken by the Registrar-General. His report has not yet been presented, but it is known that the population is 45,317, consisting of 22,564 males and 22,753 females.

Births registered in 1921	...	...	...	1,616.
Deaths	...	...	...	1,116.

370 marriages were registered in 1921, the rate being 8.13 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 11.29 for 1920. Of the 1,616 births, 820 were males and 796 were females. The birth-rate works out 35.456 per 1,000 of the population, as against 45.03 per 1,000 during 1920.

38. Of the 1,116 deaths, 568 were males and 548 were females, the death-rate being 24.507 per 1,000 of the population, a little lower than the normal rate of the Colony. The rate in 1920 was 25.00 and in 1919 was 27.35 per 1,000.

39. During 1921 there were 256 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving a proportion per centage of the total deaths registered of 22.9, and comparing with 22.2 per cent. for the year 1920. Between one year and five years of age there were 168 deaths in 1921, comparing with 173 deaths of infants classified in the same group in 1920. The proportion of deaths to each 100 births of infants between one and five years of age in 1921 was 26.2 per cent., and in 1920 it was 21.0 per cent.

40. The principal causes of death during 1921 in order of degree were from diseases of the digestive system, followed by those of the respiratory system, and then by those classified under the genito-urinary system. Deaths from malaria give a proportion of 10.0 per cent. of the total deaths, and tuberculosis accounted for 6.9 per cent. of all the deaths registered.

SPORT.

41. In the department of sport there is good entertainment for the dauntless hunter whose love of the chase is greater than his susceptibility to the many small annoyances of a tropical forest. In the neighbourhood of towns, villages, and mahogany camps there

is very little game to be found, but good sport may be had in those parts which are away from the haunts of men. Of large animals the jaguar, puma, tiger cat and tapir are the most popular objects of chase in the thick forest, while of smaller and edible animals and birds, the antelope, armadillo, gibbonet, the wild turkey, with his cousins the curassow and the quam, provide a sufficient variety of food. The wild turkey (*Meleagris ocellatus*) is also valued for his plumage. Deer are plentiful in the pine forests, and in the numerous rivers and lagoons the hunter may, with the aid of head-light and harpoon, indulge in the exciting but not dangerous sport of spearing alligators from a canoe. In the sea and lower reaches of the rivers the fisherman finds an abundance of fish, including large tarpon. There is a polo club, a golf club and two lawn tennis clubs.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

42. Import duties during the year 1921-22 compared with the previous year show a decrease of about \$133,480. The total receipts were only \$387,111. Losses were, however, incurred under all heads of revenue, particularly in duty on imports.

43. Excise duty on rum and export duty on chicle decreased respectively \$15,138 and \$25,505 on the previous year's takings. The whole Customs and Excise duties were less by \$184,900 than in the previous year, and \$96,032 less than the Estimates. Exports of coconuts were higher than in any year since 1915, while exports of bananas and chicle were less than in 1920; exports of plantains were much greater. Logwood, which was once the principal export of the Colony, dwindled to 760 tons last year. In 1896 as much as 34,539 tons were exported. Exports of mahogany were fairly well maintained, 9,649,582 ft. having been shipped during the year. On the other hand, 2,577,481 lb. of chicle were exported compared with 136,391 lb. twenty years ago. Only 215,306 lb. of the chicle exported in the year under review was bled in British Honduras. 199,137 lb. of copra also were exported.

44. Exports of oranges amounted to 69,172 in number, and of sponges to 2,719 lb. Turtle shell to the extent of 2,036 lb. also was exported.

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

45. The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years were as follows:—

REVENUE.

1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
\$676,227	\$721,233	\$1,065,622	\$1,129,932	\$1,105,206

EXPENDITURE.

1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
\$675,234	\$670,736	\$981,816	\$928,816	\$1,410,780

46. The amount of the public debt outstanding on the 31st March, 1922, was \$665,334. The assets and liabilities on the same date were \$524,211 and \$299,506 respectively. The amount of the balance of account at 31st March, 1922, was \$224,705.

TAXATION.

47. No fresh taxation was imposed during the year but the *ad valorem* duties on Customs imports were increased from 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. under the General Tariff by Ordinance No. 21 of 1921. The export duty on coconuts was reduced to \$1.00 per thousand on account of the low prices obtained for them. It was formerly \$2.00 per thousand. The export duty on liquors was reduced from 20 per cent. *ad valorem* to 10 per cent. *ad valorem* by Ordinance No. 4 of 1921. By an Order in Council of the 31st August cases and crates for packing fruit for export were exempted from import duty for one year.

INCOME TAX.

48. This year was the first in which incomes were assessed for tax in accordance with the law passed in 1920. Out of a population of over 45,000 people only 452 were assessed for tax. The amount assessed was \$72,279.40.

III. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

TRADE.

49. The value of the Colony's trade was \$6,388,591, of which \$3,343,132 was the value of imports and \$3,045,459 of exports. The United States of America supplied 56 per cent. of the imports and took 76 per cent. of the exports; the Empire, 21 per cent. of imports and 17 per cent. of exports.

50. Although the Colony's trade for the year 1921 shows a falling off as compared with that of 1920, chiefly due to decrease in values, it has been none the less steadily maintained and is in excess of that of 1917.

51. There has been no change with regard to the sources of supply or destination of the products. The United States of America, as previously shown, controls the bulk of the trade.

AGRICULTURE.

52. Much of the large area of scrub-land in this Colony is the result of the wasteful deforestation by fire which has been going on for centuries. It is to be hoped that, with a new forest department and the introduction of capital into the Colony, a stop will be put to the indiscriminate forest fires, and that people will learn to become agriculturists in the only profitable and true way, that is, by using modern methods of tillage.

53. In 1920 the Colony was visited by Mr. W. R. Dunlop, a member of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, with the view of giving expert advice on matters relating to agricultural development. He presented an exhaustive report in 1921, with recommendations for establishing a local agricultural department, but owing to the depressed financial condition of the Colony it has not yet been possible to carry out his recommendations.

54. Agricultural land is easily obtainable either from the Crown at from \$2.00 to \$4.00 an acre or from private owners at about \$5.00 to \$6.00 an acre. The cost of survey is about \$1.50 an acre. The land tax is very light, being only 1½ cents an acre, except near the Stann Creek Railway, where the tax is 8½ cents an acre. All tropical produce grows in abundance. For the capitalist who thinks of agricultural investments no soil in the world is more suitable. There is also excellent pasturage for cattle-raising. The Great Southern Pine Ridge alone is capable of supporting thousands of head of cattle.

INDUSTRY.

55. Sugar is still made in certain parts of the Northern and Southern districts but only for local consumption. The low prices obtained checked any development of the industry. Without modern machinery and scientific cultivation of the soil, both of which require capital, no progress can ever be made in the sugar industry. The output was 2,908 barrels in the Corozal District, 495 barrels in Orange Walk, and 4,500 barrels in Toledo. Rum is made as a by-product of the sugar industry; the quantity made during the year being 45,484 proof gallons. Panama disease continued to attack the banana fields, and the industry in the Stann Creek Valley has been practically ruined, with great loss of revenue to the Government railway. A small soap-making industry was started in the town of Stann Creek, cohune nut oil being used in making the soap.

FISHING.

56. There was no development during the year of the sponge industry. A visit from Mr. Crawshay, the expert in the Bahamas, was hoped for but did not materialise. He had examined and written a favourable report on some samples sent to him.

57. The sea around the cays teems with excellent eating fish, the best known being snapper, grooper, king-fish, Spanish mackerel

and barracouta. Turtle, both logger-head and hawk's bill, are captured for the sake of the shell, a fair amount of which is exported. Green turtle are fairly plentiful and are in great request as food. Tarpon fishing is indulged in as a sport.

IV. PROGRESS IN THE INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

58. In November 1921 an extremely useful and interesting report on the forests of the Colony, with suggestions for a far-reaching forest policy, was made by Mr. C. Hummel. As the Colony's forests form its entire natural wealth his proposals have excited much interest. They appear to be based on a wise conservation of existing mahogany trees, of reafforesting used-up lands, and of exploiting other valuable woods which have hitherto attracted little attention through want of knowledge of their qualities.

59. It is not expected that any great immediate benefits to the Colony will accrue, but there is no doubt that future generations will reap the benefit of adopting a sound conservative forestry policy now, and that the future of the Colony will be assured if its wonderful resources are not dissipated without adequate replacement.

60. The proposals made in 1920 to develop the Chipley Pine Concessions so far as the territory between Sittee River and Deep River was concerned were more or less at a standstill in 1921.

61. This does not mean that the proposals were abandoned. An interview was obtained by Mr. Hummel, the forestry officer, with the concessionaires in Florida in June and certain plans for action were agreed on. Mr. Hummel has proceeded to England, and it is expected that in a few months, on his return, operations to bleed and cut trees on a large scale will be entered on. Meanwhile another Florida Company is operating with considerable success and much hopefulness on private lands. The flow of turpentine is said to be satisfactory.

62. A large British timber company sent a representative to the Colony in the latter part of the year to examine the mahogany forests and it is believed that he has reported very favourably on the trees in the Western district. It is hoped that in time the Government railway at Stann Creek may be extended to tap this district.

63. In June a geologist from Australia, Mr. L. H. Ower, was sent out by the Colonial Office to investigate and report on the geology of the Colony with a view to discovering whether oil or minerals exist in paying quantities. The Scottish-American Oil Company also sent a representative. The results of their investigations were not known at the close of the year.

V. BANKS AND BANKING FACILITIES.

64. In February, 1921, a law was passed giving the Governor power to extend the law relating to Foreign Banks to banks not under British control.

65. The Royal Bank of Canada maintains a branch in Belize. It is the only banking business in the Colony. It is not allowed to circulate its own notes, having to use the currency notes of the Government. The Government Savings Bank is a sub-department of the Treasury. The amount due to depositors on the 31st March, 1922, was \$156,054.41, as against \$163,158.40 in 1921. At all the district treasury offices branches are established. The interest allowed is 3 per cent.

CURRENCY.

66. The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America. The British sovereign and half-sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43 respectively. There is also a subsidiary silver currency of 50 cents, 25 cents, 10 and 5 cents, nickel 5 cent pieces and bronze 1 cent pieces coined specially for the Colony. There is a paper currency of tens, fives, twos and one dollar issued by the Government. Notes of the United States of America circulate freely.

VI. EDUCATION.

67. The system of education continues to be the same as that inaugurated in 1894, with the addition of the compulsory attendance law of 1915 which is now in force in practically the whole Colony. Generally the maximum age limit for attendance under the compulsory attendance law is twelve years; but there are now three areas in which it has been raised to fourteen years, the towns of Belize, Orange Walk and the village of San Estevan; the two latter places are on the New River. The school age for the purpose of grants as given by the Government on the monthly average attendances commences at five years and ends at sixteen years. Though the cost of living has been reduced the Government still continues to make special grants to teachers in addition to their ordinary salaries for which the managers are responsible. This is because it has been felt that the ordinary salary of a teacher is still too small. It is hoped that in time the Government will be able to introduce a system of salaries instead of the present system of school grants. Unfortunately, the finances of the Colony do not at present admit of this change, which, of course, would necessitate a large increase in the education vote.

68. The total grants for the year 1921 amounted to \$44,999.63, which included special increases to teachers' salaries, grants to pupil-teachers, needlework, agriculture, building and furniture. In

most of the schools in the Colony a small fee is charged; but payment is not compulsory, and the receipts are small. The amount collected in the year under review was \$2,442. The number of aided schools in operation in 1921 was 59 as against 58 in 1920. In Belize District there are 21, in Corozal District, 9, in Orange Walk District, 8, in Cayo District, 4, in Stann Creek District, 8, and in Toledo, 9.

69. The total number of pupils on roll in the aided schools was 6,683; of these 3,510 were boys and 3,173 girls, and the average daily attendance was 5,027, of which 2,647 were boys and 2,380 girls.

70. There were 81 certificated teachers and 55 pupil-teachers employed during the year. The former are obtained from the pupil-teachers class which, though the best obtainable, is by no means the most satisfactory, the present system of training pupil-teachers leaving much to be desired. There were also 40 teachers without certificates.

71. There are a few private elementary schools in the Colony which are unaided. These have a total of 400 pupils on roll with an average attendance of 300.

SECONDARY.

72. Secondary education is still a private undertaking in connection with the religious denominations. The schools are unaided by the Government except to the extent of a few hundred dollars paid as bonus on passes at the Cambridge Local Examinations. The amount paid for the year was \$799.19. These schools have a total roll of 481 and an average attendance of 345, but only about one hundred of these receive secondary education. In December, twenty pupils were presented for the Cambridge Examinations, eleven for the Preliminary and nine for the Junior. The results are not yet known. The ordinary rate of fees in these schools is \$3.00 a month. The total number on roll for schools of all classes is 7,560; boys, 3,940, girls, 3,620, and the average attendance is 5,670; boys, 2,980, and girls, 2,690. This shows that about 67 per cent. of the children of school age are under instruction.

73. The expenditure for the year was \$75,555.48, which shows an increase over 1920 of \$15,848.32. There were large expenses incurred by the churches in the erection of new school buildings.

TECHNICAL.

74. There is little technical education undertaken in this Colony.

75. The teaching in this branch is limited to needlework in the girls' schools. There are now only two students at the Farm School at Hope, Jamaica, of the four sent in 1920. The other two retired. It is to be regretted that there are no industrial schools in the Colony.

VII. LEGISLATION.

76. Ordinance No. 13 of 1921 amended the Income Tax Law of 1920, particularly as regards relief for wife and children, double assessment and double income tax.

77. Ordinance No. 14 regulates the Coastal and River Trade Passenger Vessels, chiefly to ensure against overcrowding and accidents.

78. Ordinance No. 19 reduced the export duty on coconuts to \$1.00 per thousand.

79. The Immigrants Ordinance No. 20 restricts undesirables from entering the Colony.

80. Various Public Health Amending Ordinances and Ordinances regarding the raising of loans were also passed.

VIII. METEOROLOGICAL.

81. These observations apply only to Belize.

82. The hottest day of the year was the 5th September, on which the thermometer registered 88° F., and the coldest day the 29th January, when it registered 58° F. Maximum precipitation was on the 6th October and was 2·8 in. The total rainfall was 85·92 in. The maximum wind velocity was 48 miles an hour on the following dates, 15th January, 24th and 25th June, and 26th July.

83. The Colony is outside the track of hurricanes, and earthquakes are unknown. From October to January cool northerly winds blow at times.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS.

84. There is frequent communication between the towns and villages along the coast by sailing and motor boats and by the latter on the rivers. There is a short railway from the sea-coast going inland, near Stann Creek Town, about 25 miles in length. It taps banana plantations.

85. External communication is provided weekly with New Orleans or Mobile by the steamers of the United Fruit Company. The Canadian Government Merchant Marine run a steamer via Jamaica every three weeks and the Harrison Line a monthly steamer from Liverpool. The same line runs an occasional steamer to carry mahogany to London.

86. Communication by sailing vessels with the neighbouring republics is frequent.

ROADS.

87. In the Corozal District a good road was built across the Louisville swamp. This is the main road from the town to the Rio Hondo. Apart from this no road-building was undertaken.

The Colony is urgently in need of good roads, the total length of metalled roads outside Belize being only about 30 miles. The difficulty of obtaining material and its cost make road-building very expensive.

X. PUBLIC WORKS.

88. A new hospital has been built in the Cayo District.

89. No works of any size were undertaken during the year.

XI. SHIPPING.

90. In 1921, 204 sailing vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 6,088 tons and 355 steam vessels of 232,893 tons entered the Colony, of which 123 sailing vessels representing 3,277 tons and 131 steam vessels of 73,877 tons were British.

XII. POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

91. The postal telegraph system is a Government institution. There are 500 miles of lines with thirty offices.

92. Great difficulties were experienced in maintaining the lines in order owing to the wild and swampy description of the country through which most of the lines pass. The marvel is that communication is as good as it is. The charge for telegrams is 25 cents for the first fifteen words and 1 cent for each additional word. The number of inland and foreign telegrams transmitted during the year was 22,492.

93. There is a wireless station in Belize which communicates with the United Fruit Company's ships. Improvements have been made in the station during the year and it is hoped that in the near future direct communication with Jamaica will be established.

94. There is one telephone exchange in Belize with about two hundred and fifty subscribers. It is a Government department.

XIII. CLIMATE.

95. The climate of British Honduras has the reputation of being a very unhealthy one, but facts show that far from being unhealthy the climate compares not unfavourably with that of other tropical countries with small European populations.

96. Europeans leading a normal life and taking common precautions will find the climate of British Honduras pleasant and healthy.

XIV. OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

97. No modern handbook of the Colony exists. The Colonial Secretary's report for 1920 published by His Majesty's Stationery Office may be had for 1s. at the addresses printed on the cover of this report.

98. There is an Annual Report on Trade by the Collector of Customs, and an official Gazette printed and published by the Government Printing Office.

MAX SMITH,

Colonial Secretary.

17th August, 1922.



COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	1920
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1137.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1086.)



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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

I.—GENERAL.

SIR W. H. MANNING, G.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., was Governor of Ceylon throughout the year. The title of Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on His Excellency in January.

The Honour of Knighthood was conferred on the Hon. Mr. H. C. Gollan, Attorney-General, and on the Hon. Mr. Ponnambalam Ramanathan, K.C., C.M.G.

The Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on the Hon. Mr. B. Horsburgh, C.C.S.

The following were appointed King's Counsel :—Messrs. A. Driberg, C. B. Elliott, T. F. Garvin, A. St. V. Jayawardene, and H. J. C. Pereira.

Hon. Mr. W. S. Shaw, Puisne Justice, was appointed Chief Justice, Straits Settlements, and Mr. J. Scott, C.C.S., and Mr. H. M-M. Moore, C.C.S., were appointed Assistant Chief Secretary, Nigeria, and Colonial Secretary, Bermuda, respectively.

Mr. H. G. Bois, European (Rural) Member of the Legislative Council, resigned in July, and was succeeded by Mr. R. S. Philpott.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Messrs. R. B. Hellings, C. R. Cumberland, and R. W. Byrde of the Civil Service ; Brigadier-General R. B. Fell, Commandant, Ceylon Defence Force ; Mr. H. F. Tomalin, Conservator of Forests ; Mr. J. C. C. Middleton, Assistant Conservator of Forests ; Dr. K. McGahey, Senior Sanitary Officer ; Dr. G. VanRooyen, Inspecting Medical Officer ; Mr. A. E. McCloskey, Chief Engineer of Telegraphs ; Mr. F. R. Dias, District Judge, Kandy ; Mr. G. Hazelrigg, Registrar, Supreme Court ; and Mr. E. Human, Chief Engineer, Colombo Lake Development Scheme.

The following deaths are recorded with regret :—Mr. W. Wadsworth, Additional District Judge, Colombo ; Mr. J. E. de Silva, late Police Magistrate, Kalutara ; and Messrs. A. R. Dawson, E. Elliott, H. O. Fox, E. T. Noyes, and H. White, all retired members of the Ceylon Civil Service.

The general condition of the Colony has not been very satisfactory this year. The year began badly with a very serious depression in three of the Colony's most important industries, tea, rubber, and plumbago. Tea recovered steadily however, and was in a strong position at the end of the year. The rubber industry remained in a depressed state throughout, with a very slight improvement during the second half of the year, but estates have been able to continue their operations, exercising, of course, the greatest possible economy in all directions. Plumbago has had a very bad year, and the market for the present is almost dead. The coconut industries, however, have remained in a satisfactory condition, and there has been little real distress in the Colony. Prices have generally remained at a high level, except in the case of rice, the price of which fell considerably during the latter part of the year. Exchange remained almost stationary at about 1s. 4d. to the rupee, a fact which, though it helped to keep prices high, gave material assistance to estates and exporters.

The condition of the people was fairly satisfactory throughout, and no special relief works have been necessary in any part. Weather conditions have been fair, but heavy rains at the very beginning and end of the year, and long periods of dry weather at other times, caused the paddy harvests on the whole to be somewhat poor. Health conditions were satisfactory, and there were no epidemics of any consequence. Malaria, however, continued to be very prevalent in some parts.

Owing to the restriction of imports of rice from India, a system of food control had been in operation in Ceylon since 1919, and at the commencement of the year the system was still in force, but conditions were much better, and there was reason to believe that an ample supply of rice would be available. Consequently, on February 28 all restrictions as to the quantities purchasable were removed, but the restrictions as to a maximum selling price were retained. At the end of June, however, it became necessary to re-impose the restrictions as to the amount purchasable, as there were then further difficulties in obtaining supplies from Burma. These difficulties were overcome, and early in August the restrictions were removed, and by the end of October it became possible to remove all restrictions, including those fixing a maximum selling price. Since then the supply has been sufficient, and the price reasonable.

The Food Production Department, which was established in April, 1920, ceased to exist at the end of March, 1921, and its functions were divided between the Controller of Revenue, the Government Agents, and the Agricultural Department. It had accomplished a good work in encouraging the local cultivation of foodstuffs, but the abandonment of the proposed compulsory food production Ordinance and the improved condition of the food supply from abroad rendered the existence of a separate department unnecessary. This did not mean that the efforts which had previously been made to increase the area under cultivation in Ceylon were abandoned. The colonies referred to in last year's report continued their work, with the exception of the Salvation Army Indian colony at Unnichchai, which proved a failure. Local cultivators, however, took up land at Unnichchai, and their colony is progressing, though slowly. There are other colonies at Tempitiya, Vakaneri, and Lahugala in the Eastern Province and at Ratmale (Nachchaduwa) in the North-Central Province, which continue to make progress, and the Government Agent of the Eastern Province reports that steps were also taken to settle the chena cultivators of Bintenna, Wewgam pattu, and Kathiraveli upon paddy lands, with a considerable amount of success. He also states that "Food production was further stimulated by the operations of the Paddy Bank which by the end of the year had about one lakh of rupees out on small loans. The work of this bank has so far been experimental, but it is proposed shortly to settle its constitution, and to work out in connection with it a system under which the small cultivator will be encouraged to make a certain annual saving and gradually acquire a capital of his own, instead of, as at present, being dependent upon borrowing to do his cultivation." The Agricultural Department has continued to work with the same object in view by maintaining experimental and demonstration gardens, by distributing seed and leaflets, and by lectures, &c. Irrigation rates on lands cultivated with paddy remained suspended, and the free carriage of foodstuffs on the railway was continued.

Of special interest are the experiments which have been made to introduce new products, especially those suitable for the dry zone, where the present staple products of the Colony, tea, rubber, coconuts, cacao, &c., do not thrive. A large estate has been opened in sisal hemp by a syndicate of European planters in the North-Central Province, and is showing great promise. Cotton cultivation has been tried in the past without any very striking success, but further endeavours are being made to introduce this crop, the Hambantota District of the Southern Province being considered the most likely part of the Colony for this purpose. Some inquiries have also been made into the possibility of

growing and canning pineapples in large quantities, an industry which may find a suitable home in certain areas of the Colony with a considerable rainfall, *e.g.*, the Kegalla District.

The important question of transport has received a great deal of attention during the year. First in importance in this connection are, of course, the new railway extensions. The long extensions to Batticaloa and Trincomalee are intended to provide an outlet for the large food-producing areas of the Eastern Province, and to open up much new land, at present mostly forest and jungle, along their routes. The Puttalam extension will supply a long felt need by giving railway facilities to a large and important coconut-growing and salt-producing district; the Badulla extension of the Main line will supply one of the foremost tea districts of the Colony, and the Harbour extension and Kolonnawa lines will not only facilitate the work of the port and of the oil installation, but will also benefit suburban Colombo. In addition to these railway undertakings, the year has seen a large increase in the use of mechanical road transport, not only in the planting areas, but also in the low-country. There are now motor bus services on most of the main roads of the Colony, even in districts generally considered to be backward, such as the Mullaitivu District and the North-Central Province, of the latter of which the Government Agent writes: "There has also been considerable development of motor traction along the main roads, and private buses (in addition to the Government mail motor bus from Anuradhapura to Trincomalee) ply on all the main Public Works Department roads. The villager is now able to travel to Anuradhapura and back very rapidly at a small uniform charge of 10 cents per mile" The use of large-sized motor vehicles for the conveyance of goods as well as passengers is on the increase, and is giving rise to a very serious problem, for the roads of the Colony, though in most instances quite suitable for the traffic borne by them in the past, are not always able to bear the extra traffic now put upon them, and require new, heavier, and wider bridges, and often demand entire reconstruction.

One of the outstanding events of the year was the opening of University College, Colombo, which marks a very important step in advance as regards higher education in the Colony. As indicated in Section VII. "Education" below, the institution has had a successful first year, and it is hoped that within the next few years it will be possible to convert the present college into a University for Ceylon.

In regard to Local Government and the public health, the most important event was the formation of a Local Government Board under Ordinance No. 11 of 1920, and the preliminary steps for the creation of new Urban District Councils for the towns of Negombo and Ratnapura under this Ordinance in place of the existing Local Boards. These new Councils will have elected Unofficial Chairmen and a majority of elected members, with extensive powers over public thoroughfares, public health, and local matters generally. Reference might also be made to the work of the Board of Improvement Commissioners, Kandy, who, with funds provided partly by Government and partly by the Municipal Council, have formulated schemes of improvement for the town, and have started the erection of a number of model dwellings intended to house the "alley" population of the town. In Nuwara Eliya four sets of model dwellings were completed during the year, this being a portion of a scheme financed partly by a loan and partly by a grant from Government for improving the housing conditions of the poorer classes. In the Western Province considerable advance has been made in many of the small towns by the provision of wide roads and open spaces, markets, &c., and in some cases by the provision of a local water supply. In Colombo the drainage works, which provide for a system of sewers and rain-water drains and pumping stations throughout the Municipality, and for the disposal of sewage by bacterial treatment on modern lines, were practically completed and were in process of being

handed over to the Municipality. It was not possible, however, to provide further public funds for the Board of Improvement Commissioners of Colombo, and this body ceased to function.

The first meeting of the Reformed Legislative Council under "The Ceylon (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1920," was held in June. The new Council consists of 14 official members and 23 unofficial members. The latter consist of 16 elected members (11 of these being territorially elected members), 2 nominated Kandyan members, 1 nominated Muhammadan member, 1 nominated Indian member, and 3 other nominated members.

Among the events of interest during the year may be mentioned the visit of the Crown Prince of Japan in March, an elephant kraal at Kalawana in the Province of Sabaragamuwa in the same month, the taking of the census of population on March 18, and the laying of the foundation stone of the Victory Column (War Memorial) on the Galle Face, Colombo, by His Excellency the Governor in December.

Two Commissions were appointed during the year, viz. :—

- (1) Consisting of Sir Alexander Wood Renton and the Hon. Dr. Fernando, to make a general and comprehensive investigation into the pay, prospects, and conditions of the service of the staff of all the Departments, and particularly to make recommendations for an equitable revision, and, if necessary, a re-grading of the salaries and allowances of all Public Officers of the Government Service. To consider all cognate questions, such as age of retirement, leave, free passages, free holiday passes, house and station allowances, and provision of Government quarters. To investigate the adequacy or otherwise of the staff employed at Government offices generally, and to make recommendations if it is considered possible that such staffs might be reduced without loss of efficiency.

This Commission completed its work and made its report to Government. The report was still under consideration at the end of the year.

- (2) To inquire into and report whether it would be possible to reduce the expenditure in Public Departments by the reduction of the staffs of these Departments.

The following are some of the principal Committees appointed during the year :—

- To consider what steps should be taken for the representation of Ceylon at the International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition to be held in London.
- To fix the amount of compensation to claimants for cars commandeered during the riots of 1915.
- To consider proposals with regard to prevention and mitigation of floods.
- To consider what further measures should be taken for carrying out sanitary precautions on estates and in villages, with a view to prevent soil pollution.
- To consider the Forest Ordinance, and what steps should be taken to give effect to the recommendations contained in the report of Mr. P. M. Lushington.
- To inquire into and report upon the prevalence of parangi in Ceylon with a view to making adequate provision for coping with the disease.
- To consider the question of the definition of the habitual criminal in connection with the application of certain proposals of the Indian Jails Committee, 1919-20, to Ceylon.

II.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1921, amounted to Rs. 70,619,061·06, which was Rs. 2,416,938·94 less than the estimate and Rs. 10,581,356·96 less than the amount collected in the previous financial year. Trade depression was the main cause of the shortfall as compared with the estimate, and a contributory cause of the decrease as compared with the revenue of the previous financial year, but the fact that the large credits to revenue in 1919–20 on account of gain on exchange were not repeated in 1920–21 was the main cause of the difference between the two years.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the period under review, which was estimated at Rs. 82,179,678, was actually Rs. 91,767,691·35, being in excess of the estimate by Rs. 9,588,013·35 and the expenditure of previous financial year by Rs. 6,884,421·46. The principal cause of these differences is to be found in the loss on exchange and on rice purchases in connection with food control.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1921, were Rs. 43,245,044, and the liabilities Rs. 31,728,693, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 11,516,351. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in the local banks and with the Crown Agents, value of stores in hand, and advances to local bodies. The main liabilities are the amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund and to sundry depositors in the General Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 24,057,843.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1921, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 45,734,049, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 14,855,502 in silver rupees and Rs. 28,264,002 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

PUBLIC DEBT.

At the close of the financial year the nett sterling public debt of the Colony stood at £7,587,262 and the rupee debt at Rs. 2,068,534, or approximately 1·1 of the annual revenue. Of the loan of £6,000,000 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1921 to meet the cost of construction of railways and of other works of improvement and for the repayment to the general balance of the Colony of sums advanced to the Colombo Municipal Council on account of Drainage and Waterworks, a sum of £3,212,993. 8s. 4d. was raised up to September 30, 1921, and bears interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

DEATH DUTIES.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the new Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

The estate duty collected during the financial year 1920–21 on 980 estates amounted to Rs. 939,821. The largest estate dealt with was of the value of Rs. 3,411,745, and the amount of duty payable was Rs. 441,780. Of this sum one instalment was paid during the year, the remaining seven instalments being payable annually.

The total duty collected under the new Ordinance is nearly three times the amount of stamp duty formerly collected on probates and letters of administration.

CEYLON SAVINGS BANK.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,503,592 to credit of 41,608 depositors on December 31, 1921, against Rs. 4,283,218 to the credit of 40,670 depositors on December 31, 1920. The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1921, was Rs. 5,021,766, which includes the reserve fund of Rs. 714,115. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on sums over Rs. 1,000.

Note.—See page 50 for a report of the work of the Post Office Savings Bank.

III.—AGRICULTURE.

TEA.

The exports of the black tea during 1921 amounted to 159,302,769 lb., as against 184,770,231 lb. shipped during the previous year. The quantity of green tea exported totalled 2,308,197 lb., as against 3,204,134 lb. in 1920. These exports are the lowest in the past decade, and the year has been a most extraordinary one for the tea industry. At the beginning of the year prices, except for high grown teas, were comparatively low, and restriction of crops was still being adopted. Prices improved very considerably as the year advanced, but the market demanded the very finest qualities. Great care in plucking and in manufacture became necessary in order to meet the demands of the market, and many firms sent experts in manufacture to the various estates under their control to advise on factory work. This demand for only the finest qualities necessitated the adoption of finer plucking, and as a consequence all crops of leaf have been smaller. The quality of Ceylon tea improved very considerably as the result of the care taken upon the estates, and there has been a good steady demand for the best qualities at remunerative prices. The climatic conditions of the year in the tea districts have been abnormal. Both monsoons were light, and there was a marked shortage of rain in many of the principal tea-growing areas of the Colony, particularly at the higher elevations. This naturally tended greatly to reduce crops, and assisted towards the improvement of quality. High prices were reached in the middle of the year, and have since been well maintained.

The restriction of manuring was necessary owing to the financial losses of estates during 1920, and owing to the demand for better qualities of teas. Changes have been made in the systems of manuring, less nitrogenous manures as a whole being employed.

Pests, such as scales, mites, &c., were common in some localities, and red rust has given some trouble. These pests and diseases are generally associated with weakly bushes, and if they are to be controlled, greater attention will have to be given to cultivation and to manuring. Estates realize this necessity, and with the improvement in prices have taken steps to give the affected areas more liberal treatment. Changes have been made in the regulations affecting shot-hole borer of tea, and after close investigation of the efficacy of the disinfection treatment of tea seed at the Colombo Fumigatorium, it was decided that it was advisable, in order to protect the Ceylon tea industry against blister blight, to prohibit the import of tea seed from India.

RUBBER.

The exports of rubber amounted to 88,125,425 lb., as against 93,167,284 lb. in 1920. A large number of estates continued a policy of restriction for part of the year, while some restricted output for the whole period. Prices have been very low throughout the year, although a temporary recovery was shown in the last two months. Crêpe was most in demand, and only first quality

sheet was able to command reasonable prices in comparison with crêpe. Low grade sheet and all scraps were practically unsaleable during the earlier part of the year. Much scrap rubber was burnt on the estates, and various attempts were made to utilize low grades of rubber locally either on roads, for making stair carpets, for soles for tennis shoes, or for the manufacture of paints and varnishes.

The low prices for rubber has naturally resulted in closer attention being given to manufacture. Buyers were very particular in regard to the quality and appearance of sheet, and prices were considerably lower for all consignments which were mildewed or rusty. The Department of Agriculture during the year had several inquiries as to the methods of prevention of mildew and rust in sheet rubber, and the matter was brought up for discussion before the Estates Products Committee of the Board of Agriculture. Rubber estates have been compelled to stop all manuring, to reduce expenditure on cultivation, and to curtail expenses on roads and drains.

It is satisfactory to note that most estates still maintain expenditure on the treatment of pests and diseases. Fortunately, owing to the comparatively dry season, diseases of rubber were not particularly prevalent during the year. There was practically no pod and leaf-fall disease, and brown bast, which is now considered to be a physiological disorganization associated with tapping, was considerably less common. The majority of estates continue to tap on alternate days, but an increasing number of estates are now experimenting with the three-day tapping system.

The Colony was well represented at the International Rubber Exhibition held in London in June, and secured several important awards for its exhibits. An exhibit which attracted some attention was the pure rubber soles for boots and shoes. Several requests for samples were received, and the manufacture of these soles has since been taken up locally. It is hoped, eventually, that a company will be started to place this manufacture on a commercial basis.

CACAO.

The exports of cacao were 62,244 cwt., as against 56,397 cwt. in 1920. The spring crop was, on the whole, a light one, but the autumn crop was a very satisfactory one. Prices were low in the first part of the year, but subsequently improved considerably. The Peradeniya Chocolate Company began operations during the year, and turned out very good qualities of chocolate.

COCONUTS.

The export of coconut products during 1921 were as follows :—

Coconuts	..	..	..	No.	23,738,542
Copra	..	..	..	Cwt.	1,375,696
Desiccated nuts	..	..	..	Cwt.	870,943
Oil	..	..	..	Cwt.	502,042
Fibre	..	..	..	Cwt.	205,278

A very large increase took place in the export of nuts. These were mainly sent to the United Kingdom, Egypt, and Holland. Very considerably increased exports of fibre were also made. Desiccated nut exports were greatly in excess over the exports of the previous year, while exports of copra and oil were approximately the same.

Crops were very good in all districts, many areas producing crops which were 25 per cent. in excess of normal. Prices were, on the whole, good, more especially in the middle of the year. Tractor trials were held upon an estate in the Kurunegala District during the year, under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture. These trials demonstrated the possibilities of certain types of motor tractors in the cultivation of coconuts, and attracted a considerable amount of interest. Diseases of coconuts have been given special attention.

especially in the Kurunegala District. They were not exceptionally prevalent, and many diseases are closely associated with unfavourable soil conditions and with defective drainage and cultivation. Pests have also been investigated. The caterpillar pest has been declared under the Plant Pest and Disease Ordinance, and has been the subject of control by the Plant Pest Board of Batticaloa, where considerable damage was done by this pest, particularly in Akkaraipattu. Damage continues to be done by the beetle and weevil pests, especially in the Batticaloa District. A predator on the black beetle was discovered by the Entomologist during the year.

CARDAMOMS.

The export for 1921 was 4,512 cwt., as against 3,754 cwt. in 1920. This product is grown chiefly in Kotmale in the Nuwara Eliya District by villagers, but the low price of the product since the outbreak of the war has not encouraged its cultivation.

CINNAMON.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

Cinnamon quills	..	..	..	lb. 3,328,408
Cinnamon chips	..	..	..	lb. 1,471,620

These exports were in excess of the previous year. Prices were, on the whole, fair, but some good stocks are still being held in expectation of a rise in price. The position is fairly satisfactory, but there is no encouragement for opening fresh lands for the cultivation of cinnamon.

CITRONELLA.

The exports of citronella oil, which is prepared mostly in the Tangalla District of the Southern Province, amounted to 1,160,555 lb., as against 1,022,809 lb. during the previous year.

KAPOK.

The exports of this fibre amounted to 461,652 lb., as against 301,743 lb. in 1920.

PADDY (RICE).

An increase in the area under paddy cultivation is reported from most Provinces, particularly during the earlier part of the year, when the price of imported rice was high, but with the fall in the price and the removal of food control, the impetus for the cultivation of as much land as possible under paddy was removed. Many parts of the Island suffered from drought, but the North-Central Province, one of the principal paddy-growing areas, had a sufficient rainfall and good crops.

TOBACCO.

This product is grown in various parts of the Island, Jaffna, Kandy, Chilaw, Mullaittivu, Mannar, and Tamankaduwa being the chief places. The tobacco grown is mostly for local consumption and for export to India and the Straits Settlements, but experiments have been made, and are still being made, to produce tobacco suitable for the European market. There was a fall in the export of this commodity this year from 3,600,000 lb. to 2,400,000 lb., but the export is greater than it was in 1919. The Government Agent, Northern Province, reports that the prices for the Jaffna product in Ceylon and in Travancore ruled abnormally high, and the tobacco dealers made large profits, but generally as regards this product the year was not very satisfactory.

FOODSTUFFS.

The efforts to increase the local supplies of foodstuffs have been continued, and the Department of Agriculture has concentrated upon demonstrating the value of better cultivation, the value of manures, and of transplanting. The question of the improvement by selection of the varieties of paddy has also been taken up at two experiment stations. Facilities have continued to be given to paddy growers, and the work of the Paddy Bank in the Batticaloa District has, on the whole, been encouraging.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Thirteen new societies were registered during the year. The total number of societies is 165. The share capital of existing societies on March 31, 1921, was Rs. 122,071, and the reserve funds Rs. 20,523. The total number of members was 17,890, and the amount of manure distributed by societies to village cultivators during the year was 244 tons and 16 cwt. A new Co-operative Ordinance was passed by the Legislature during the year further to encourage the co-operative movement and to render possible the formation of central societies.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The Department of Agriculture during the year took over the Agricultural Instructors from the Agricultural Society and placed them under the supervision of Divisional Agricultural Officers. The publications of the Society have also been taken over by the Department. The Agricultural Society proposes to transform itself into an Agri-Horticultural Society, with headquarters at Colombo, as soon as finances improve. For the present the work of the Society, with the sanction of the Executive Committee, is being dealt with by the Department of Agriculture. An Advisory Board of Agriculture was legally constituted during the year. It is divided into three main Committees—Executive, Estate Products, Food Products—and is advisory to the Department of Agriculture and to Government on all matters affecting the agricultural industry.

VETERINARY.

Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest.—At the close of 1920 this disease was confined to two villages in the North-Western Province. The disease was restricted to this Province, and with the end of these cases in the first half of the year all the Provinces remained free during the rest of the year. In the North-Western Province there were 36 cases (23 deaths, 11 recoveries, and 2 shot), which ended the 1919–20 outbreak.

The town of Colombo—outside the Quarantine Station—was free during the year. Amongst the cattle imported from India 31 cases were reported from the Cattle Quarantine Station, Colombo.

The virtual disappearance of this disease is one of the most satisfactory features of the year.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease appeared in all the Provinces, except the Northern and North-Central Provinces. 1,324 cases were reported, against 1,610 cases in the previous year (1,170 recoveries, 21 deaths, and 1 shot, and 132 remained ill at the close of the year).

There were 107 cases in Colombo town, and 54 cases at the Cattle Quarantine Station. The disease is thus fairly common in Ceylon, but the type is mild and the fatality small.

Anthrax.—The Provinces were free. 397 deaths occurred at the Cattle Quarantine Station amongst the goats and sheep imported from India.

Rabies.—Fifty-two suspected cases were examined by the Director of the Pasteur Institute, 15 of which were from Colombo town. Thirty-three gave a positive and 15 a negative result; 4 were unfit for examination. 249 persons underwent treatment at the Pasteur Institute in Colombo.

Quarter Ill.—No reports of this disease were received.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Twenty cases were reported in the Province of Uva, with 18 deaths and 2 recoveries.

Piroplasmiosis.—Six cases were reported in the Western Province and 19 cases in the Central Province.

Surra.—No cases were detected during the year.

Swine Diseases.—There was no outbreak during the year.

Equine Diseases.—The only disease that caused serious loss was Osteoporosis, which was more prevalent than formerly, and caused great loss, especially amongst the young race horses imported.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt are a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1921 was Rs. 1,911,157·42, as against Rs. 1,988,278·53 in 1920 and Rs. 1,786,054·08 in 1919.

The local production of salt was poor, and the total yield was only 294,135 cwt. distributed as follows:—

	Cwt.
Hambantota District	139,671
Puttalam District	74,195
Jaffna District	36,060
Trincomalee District	18,024
Elephant Pass (Government Saltern)	1,185
Palavi (Government Saltern)	25,000
	<hr/>
	294,135

This output represents less than half of the annual consumption in the Island, and the decrease was largely due to the manufacturers at Puttalam (which has up to 1919 been the chief source of the salt supply of the Island) not starting manufacture till very late in the season. Untimely rains also interfered with the collection at other centres.

The reorganization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser was continued during 1921, and the construction work of the two new Government salterns, one at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and the other at Palavi (Puttalam District), could not be completed during 1921 owing to unfavourable weather and other causes. Manufacture, therefore, could not be carried out on the scale originally expected, but during the construction there were small collections made, 1,185 cwt. at Elephant Pass and 25,000 cwt. at Palavi. The total expenditure on the work of reorganization, including construction of these salterns and cost of 11 miles of light railway with sleepers up to September 30, 1921, was Rs. 573,855·59. It is expected that manufacture of salt will be carried out more successfully in 1922.

The usual selling price at the Government Salt Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government Check Stores at Ratnapura and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5·25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively. In May, 1921, the normal issues of salt for the Western Province from Puttalam were closed down, owing to shortage of stocks at Puttalam, and sales in Colombo were carried out on behalf of Government by a contractor, who undertook to transport 240,000 cwt. of salt from Hambantota, Bundala, and Trincomalee, paying Rs. 3 to Government at these centres as value of salt, and to sell the salt to the public in Colombo at Rs. 4·25 per cwt. This temporary measure

was in force at the end of 1921, and is likely to be continued for some time longer, unless the pan owners at Puttalam, who have been allowed to manufacture salt without restriction, produce large quantities in 1922.

The total stocks at the end of 1921 amounted to 611,073 cwt., or about one year's supply.

CROWN LAND.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 9,098 acres, as against 10,069 acres in 1920.

The average price per acre varied from Rs. 280 and Rs. 193 in Sabaragamuwa and Western Province, respectively, to Rs. 38 and Rs. 25 in the Eastern and Northern Provinces, respectively.

Special terms have been offered as regards lands for paddy cultivation, for which there is a demand in several Provinces. Lands for the cultivation of coconuts and tea are always in demand, but little land suitable for the latter product remains to be opened up. There was no demand for plumbago lands, and the demand for other products, including rubber, has been small.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

The Land Settlement Department settles title to land as between the Crown and the subject. Owing to the vague nature of many of the old grants, deeds, or other proof of title and the system of undivided inheritance, the work is often of some complexity, demanding time and patience.

Since the passing of the Waste Lands Ordinance in 1897 over three million acres have been settled, but large parts of the Island still remain untouched. The districts in which most work has been accomplished are the Galle District, in which the whole of the Hinidum pattu has been settled; Matara, where the whole of the interior has been finished, leaving only the belt along the coast, in which the extent of Crown land to be saved is scarcely sufficient to justify the expense of block survey and settlement of large continuous areas; Hambantota District, where the greater number of villages are complete, leaving only the more thinly populated Magam pattu, the settlement of which is contemplated in the near future; and the North-Central Province, in which large areas are complete and steady progress is being maintained.

Settlement work is also being undertaken at present in certain areas of the North-Western Province, Uva, Matale, Kegalla, and Ratnapura. Work in the two latter districts is often extremely complex, but the value of the land, both for agricultural and forestry purposes, demands its speedy settlement, and the work is progressing as steadily as circumstances permit.

Owing, however, to the many calls on the revenue of the Island, the expansion of the Survey and Settlement Departments is at present unavoidably curtailed.

During 1921 an area of 48,549 acres was settled. The confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered continues. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the year's work was the amicable settlement of a long standing claim to 200 acres of Puttalam plain, the larger portion of which lay on the site contemplated for the railway station, railway yard, and other premises required by the construction of the new Puttalam Railway. The claimants received 26 acres adjoining their old plantations, and the remainder of the area was conserved for the Crown.

FORESTS.

Re-afforestation.—During the year 1921 the area of plantations was increased from 7,346 acres 1 rood and 12 perches to 8,501 acres and 4 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year 1921 with 32,369 broad gauge and 14,144 narrow gauge sleepers, 279,058 cubic yards of firewood, 201,175 cubic feet of timber, 262,397 small round timber, and other

minor produce, chiefly stone, sand, gravel, &c. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 1,351,181, as against Rs. 1,595,633 for the previous year and as against Rs. 1,576,606 for the year 1919.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 923,175 broad gauge and 353,322 narrow gauge sleepers at an average cost of Rs. 3.71 and Re. 1.71 per sleeper, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1921 was Rs. 340,961, as against Rs. 420,591 during the year 1920. The miscellaneous revenue provided an additional sum of Rs. 31,341, as against Rs. 25,204 during the year 1920.

General.—The year will probably be a red-letter year in the history of the Forest Department, as indicating the commencement of a new forest policy. The Government has received the very valuable report of Mr. A. M. Lushington, a retired member of the Indian Forest Service, who was specially deputed to advise on the forests of the Island, and a Committee has been appointed to advise Government as to the best methods of giving effect to these recommendations. Briefly put, the main recommendation is that the Forest Department should confine its attention mainly to special forest reserves, the extent of which will be about 5,000 square miles, and which it is proposed to work on thoroughly scientific lines, and the remainder of the forest lands will be dealt with by the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents.

MINES AND MINING.

Gem Mining is carried on in the Ratnapura District almost exclusively, and is in the hands of Ceylonese. The gem-digging industry is carried on by Sinhalese, whilst the gem-cutting industry is monopolized by the Moors. The industry expanded largely during the latter part of the year, and the Government Agent, Province of Sabaragamuwa, reports that during November and December applications for licenses were received in considerable numbers.

Plumbago Mining is still in a very unsatisfactory state. Only 26 mines were reported to be working at the end of the year, employing about 874 men. The total quantity of plumbago exported was 87,060 cwt., valued at Rs. 806,903.

Mica.—88 cwt. were exported, valued at Rs. 15,102.

MINERAL SURVEY.

Prospecting of the gemming fields of the Ratnapura District was continued from January till the beginning of March, in search of the parent rock of the gem stones found in the alluvial gravels. During the remainder of the year field work was suspended owing to the absence of the Principal Mineral Surveyor on leave.

The monazite works at Bentota continued in operation, the production amounting to 61 tons.

Trials of various mineral-dressing appliances made in England, under the supervision of the Mineral Surveyor, show that at the present price of monazite sand it should be possible to treat economically the extensive low-grade deposits of "black sand" on the west coast of the Island.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES.

The industries and manufactures of Ceylon are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the manufacture of tea, copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, rubber, &c. There are large engineering works in Colombo and other parts of the country, particularly in the Central Province, engaged

in the manufacture and repair of machinery and agricultural implements. Colombo contains also fully-equipped engineering works capable of carrying out repairs to ships, &c., and there are also lead-rolling mills which prepare lead for tea chests, &c., for Ceylon and South India.

The manufacture of rubber articles is now receiving considerable attention, particularly as the price of raw rubber is low, and a large factory was opened during the year to supply rubber soles for boots, &c. The Colombo Spinning and Weaving Mills, the only institution of its kind in Ceylon, is enlarging its works. A greater amount of importance than usual has been attached of late years to what are now being called the "cottage" industries of the Island. These consist of the manufacture of silver, brass, and ivory work, lace, basket work, cloth, coir, and coir rope, &c. Various associations have been formed to foster and encourage these home industries, and these have met with a considerable measure of success. Mention should be made of the Kandyan Arts Association, which has worked in Kandy for a number of years, at first with Government assistance, but latterly on a self-supporting basis. It has done much to organize the local industries in gold, silver, ivory, brass, and lacquer work, for which the Kandyan "Navandunno" are famous. The Kalutara Basket Association has also continued its good work, and the hat and basket industry is now firmly established, there being a large demand, both from Ceylon and abroad, for the various articles, which are mostly made by women in their own homes from locally-grown cane and dyed with locally-produced dyes. A newer association is the Batticaloa Cloth Association, which has been formed to revive and improve the ancient cloth-weaving industry in the Eastern Province. Reference should also be made to the Ceylon Society of Arts, which, by competitions and otherwise, is helping to promote the artistic side of these industries.

Further steps have been taken with regard to the proposed hydro-electric scheme for Ceylon, and a definite scheme has been formulated for the erection of a power station at Laxapana Falls in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, the electric current being carried by high tension mains to Colombo and Kandy. The whole scheme is at present under consideration. If effect is given to the proposal, a large quantity of power will be available at a very low rate for the establishment of new industries and manufactures.

FACTORIES.

There has been an increase of 29 in the total number of factories compared to that of 1920, or nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ per centum. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 43, but 14 ceased work permanently. The increases comprise 5 tea, 2 rubber, 1 chocolate, 14 coconut desiccating, 7 coconut fibre, 4 sawing, 1 aerated water, 2 printing, 1 packing and produce, 1 rice hulling, 2 manure, 1 soap, 1 paper making, and 1 oxygen producing mills; the decreases, 1 tea, 2 coconut desiccating, 1 coconut fibre, 1 engineering, 1 sawing, 2 aerated water, 1 printing, 2 packing and produce, 1 manure, and 2 plumbago curing mills. Three new types of factories have been started during the year, 1 oxygen producing (for welding purposes mainly), 1 for soap, and 1 for paper manufacture.

The number of cases in which steam power was used has diminished by 1.3 per cent., a rate lower than in previous years, which have averaged about 4.4 per cent. Electric installations have increased, on the other hand, by 8.5 per cent. since the last report.

FISHERIES.

Food Fisheries.—At present the marine fisheries are carried on in a comparatively primitive manner by local fishermen from outrigger canoes and catamarans and from the shore. Line fishing is practised far out at sea, whilst nets of various kinds are used in the inshore waters and estuaries.

Considerable quantities of fish are caught, packed in ice, and sent to Colombo and other large centres of population from places on the railway, even so far distant as Jaffna and Mannar. Elsewhere most of the fish is dried or pickled. Many of the fishermen of the Negombo District migrate during the fishing season to various parts of the coast of the North-Western and Northern Provinces, the fish they catch being cured and salted. The supply of fish, however, is inadequate for the growing demands of the Island, as is shown by the following table of the imports of fish goods from 1910 to 1920 :—

Value of Imports of Fish Goods into Ceylon.

Year.	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Guano. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1920 ..	4,508,568 ..	230,147 ..	1,338,411 ..	1,967,961 ..	2,775 ..	8,047,862
1919 ..	3,849,420 ..	79,956 ..	1,357,273 ..	1,446,696 ..	4,635 ..	6,737,980
1918 ..	4,463,125 ..	62,386 ..	1,067,381 ..	777,396 ..	840 ..	6,371,128
1917 ..	4,121,258 ..	80,345 ..	502,959 ..	165,906 ..	2,100 ..	4,672,568
1916 ..	4,482,770 ..	184,468 ..	713,808 ..	196,369 ..	3,739 ..	5,581,153
1915 ..	4,237,500 ..	147,437 ..	223,990 ..	6,740 ..	1,845 ..	4,617,512
1914 ..	3,879,338 ..	152,078 ..	262,756 ..	316,395 ..	2,433 ..	4,413,000
1913 ..	4,467,725 ..	166,661 ..	1,167,687 ..	358,275 ..	1,213 ..	6,161,561
1912 ..	4,228,690 ..	149,636 ..	757,113 ..	140,595 ..	5,607 ..	5,281,541
1911 ..	4,339,008 ..	135,177 ..	1,077,073 ..	17,956 ..	948 ..	5,570,162
1910 ..	4,233,363 ..	105,240 ..	1,174,889 ..	17,732 ..	1,030 ..	5,532,254

The Marine Biological Survey, under the Director of the Colombo Museum and Marine Biologist, is making investigations with a view to improving the fish supply and experimenting with modern fishing appliances. The preliminary survey of the coastal waters is now complete, and two valuable trawling banks have been examined, one off Kankasanturai, and the other near Cape Comorin, outside the Indian territorial waters, which could easily be worked from Colombo. Apart from these two banks of nearly 4,000 square miles, the littoral waters are not suitable for trawling. Enormous quantities of mid-water fish, however, abound everywhere, and there can be no doubt that modern methods of drift net fishing could be successfully introduced.

The Marine Biological Survey is at present engaged upon these problems, and there is no reason why an adequate supply of fresh fish, and, with improved methods, a greatly increased quantity of dried fish, should not be produced from Ceylon littoral waters.

Pearl Fisheries.—The pearl banks, which are situated in the shallow water plateau of the north-eastern corner of the Gulf of Mannar, are probably the most ancient fisheries now in existence, and appear to be carried on under much the same conditions now as they were 2,000 or 3,000 years ago. Pliny refers to Taprobane (Ceylon) “as the most productive of pearls of all parts of the world,” and in the “Mahawansa” mention is made of a present which included local pearls from King Wijaya of Ceylon to his Indian father-in-law about 540–550 B.C.

Notable features of these fisheries are their uncertainty and their intermittent periods of unproductiveness—characteristics which have obtained from early times. The most noteworthy of these barren periods, omitting fisheries of negligible value, occurring during the British period have been :—

1815 to 1827, inclusive, 13 years.

1838 to 1854, inclusive, 17 years.

1864 to 1873, inclusive, 10 years.

1892 to 1902, inclusive, 11 years.

1908 to present day.

The most profitable series of fisheries on record was during 1903–1907, the value of the 1905 fishery alone being 3½ millions of rupees, of which the Government share was two-thirds. There is an excellent prospect of a new series of fisheries starting in the year 1924 or 1925.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—This is a local industry of some importance carried on at Lake Tamblegam, near Trincomalee. The window-pane oyster (*Placuna placenta*) produces a pearl of inferior quality used for cheap native jewellery. It also has some medicinal value.

Tank Fisheries.—The tanks of the dry zone provide an abundant supply of fresh-water fish, which with care could be converted into a valuable source of food supply.

Edible Oyster Fisheries.—Edible oysters are found in considerable quantities at certain points on the coast, but apparently they are not appreciated by the indigenous population, though many Europeans regard them as a great delicacy. The demand is not very great at the present time, and there does not appear to be sufficient reason for developing these fisheries.

Chank Fisheries and Bêche-de-mer.—There is a chank fishery near the islands of Palk Strait, controlled by the Government Agent of the Northern Province, from which Government derives a small but steady revenue. Some 2,185,700 chanks and 156 cwt. of bêche-de-mer were exported from Jaffna District during the year.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1921, omitting specie but including the value of coal supplied to steamers, amounted to Rs. 545,136,333, as compared with Rs. 626,376,409 in 1920. The following table shows the value of the trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1912	3,886½	1917	4,983½
1913	4,329½	1918	4,065½
1914	4,022½	1919	6,392½
1915	4,495½	1920	6,263½
1916	5,212½	1921	5,451½

The gross Customs revenue for 1921 was Rs. 26,152,640·62, as compared with Rs. 25,945,649·07 in 1920, an increase of Rs. 206,991·55, due to the import duty on rice being raised from cents 50 to Re. 1 per cwt. There was a considerable decrease in the import duty under "Other Goods," owing to small imports of hardware, galvanized iron, motor cars, &c.

The amount of duty alone collected under the main heads of imports and exports during 1920 and 1921 has been :—

<i>Imports.</i>		1920. Rs.	1921. Rs.
Grain	..	3,468,949	5,249,462
Cotton goods	..	1,526,429	1,267,888
Spirits	..	1,324,575	1,473,264
Sugar	..	817,579	1,212,793
Kerosine oil	..	1,459,900	1,708,592
Other goods	..	7,809,807	6,037,047
<i>Exports.</i>			
Produce of the coconut palm	..	1,318,619	1,624,322
Tea, rubber, and cacao	..	4,605,794	4,320,841
Plumbago	..	62,332	22,706
Other	..	11,200	13,428
Total	..	22,405,184	22,930,343

Refunds and drawbacks totalled Rs. 202,331·61, as against Rs. 279,146·94 in 1920.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of specie and the value of coal supplied for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1912 ..	175,322,979	196,954,902	374,277,881
1913 ..	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914 ..	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915 ..	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916 ..	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917 ..	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918 ..	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919 ..	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920 ..	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921 ..	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574

Of the total value of exports in 1921, Rs. 248,120,500 represents the value of the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and Rs. 8,479,913 the value of British, foreign, and other Colonial produce and manufacture. It will be seen that the total value of imports in 1921 was more than that of previous years, with the exception of 1920, while the total value of exports in 1921 was higher than in the years 1912, 1913, 1914, and 1918, and lower than in the remaining five years.

The following table shows the percentages of imports, exports, and total trade for the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries during 1919, 1920, and 1921. This table excludes the value of specie, of rubber imports, and of coal exported for the use of steamers :—

<i>Imports.</i>	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.
From United Kingdom ..	14·51	24·46	25·32
From British Possessions ..	63·43	59·72	58·76
From Foreign Countries ..	22·06	15·82	15·92
	100	100	100
<i>Exports.</i>			
To United Kingdom ..	42·13	46·06	46·22
To British Possessions ..	14·62	15·34	16·38
To Foreign Countries ..	43·25	38·6	37·4
	100	100	100
<i>Total Trade.</i>			
With United Kingdom ..	31·39	34·38	35·74
With British Possessions ..	33·61	39·35	37·64
With Foreign Countries ..	35	26·27	26·62
	100	100	100

The share of the United Kingdom in respect of imports, exports, and the total trade has improved, while the share of exports to foreign countries has declined.

IMPORTS.

There were decreases under several important heads of imports.

Wheat Flour.—Imports show a decrease in quantity from 556,115 cwt. in 1920 to 291,028 cwt. in 1921. During the year British India supplied 198,090 cwt., as against 388,090 cwt. in the previous year, while the remainder, with the exception of 90 cwt., was imported from Australia. Exports of wheat flour from India to Ceylon are being controlled by license.

Rice.—Government control of the importation, distribution, and selling price of rice ceased with effect from October 27, 1921, as sufficient supplies were available to last throughout the year at reasonable prices. 5,859,957 cwt.

were imported during the year, as against 5,788,730 cwt. in 1920, valued at 69½ million rupees and 91½ million rupees, respectively. Besides imports from India, 263,364 cwt. were imported from the Straits Settlements, as against 14 cwt. in 1920, and 88,639 cwt. from Siam, as against nil in the previous year.

Other Grains.—Total imports increased in quantity from 1,310,996 cwt. in 1920 to 1,324,895 cwt. in 1921. Imports of paddy were more than double those in the previous year, while the importation of peas was equal to about half the imports in 1920. All the paddy imported in 1921 was during the first half year. Importation of Ragi has ceased with the removal of the Government control on rice.

Sugar.—Imports rose in quantity from 372,925 cwt. in 1920 to 450,964 cwt. in 1921. There was an increase in refined sugar, while unrefined sugar and jaggery showed a decrease. Java, the principal country supplying Ceylon with refined sugar, sent 303,712 cwt., which is more than the entire import of refined sugar in 1920. Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements were the next largest suppliers, with 43,994 cwt. and 31,706 cwt., respectively, to their credit, the former country supplying a quantity equal to that supplied in 1920, and the latter supplying nearly four times the quantity supplied in that year.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the last three years have been :—

		Cigars.		Cigarettes.		Manufactured Tobacco.		Total.
		lb.		lb.		lb.		lb.
1919	..	11,820	..	303,142	..	13,625	..	328,587
1920	..	12,198	..	371,575	..	29,034	..	412,807
1921	..	8,092	..	318,005	..	23,330	..	350,427

The demand for all the three kinds was less than in the year 1920, but, with the exception of cigars, was more than in 1919. The United Kingdom supplied most of the cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, while cigars were supplied chiefly by India, the Philippines, and Holland. The figure for cigarettes excludes beedy cigarettes.

Spirits.—The quantity cleared for home consumption was more than in 1920, the increase being under all heads, except liqueur and rum. The quantity of the three principal kinds cleared is shown below in proof gallons for the past two years :—

				Quantity cleared. (Proof Gallons.)	
				1920.	1921.
Brandy	..	..	..	21,601	24,269
Gin	..	..	..	33,989	34,131
Whisky	..	..	..	58,903	62,885

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—There was a decrease in the value of cotton goods imported from Rs. 32,927,654 in 1920 to Rs. 25,594,269 in the year under review, the value of imports from the United Kingdom and foreign countries showing a decrease from Rs. 21,682,013 and Rs. 3,358,518, respectively, to Rs. 14,916,801 and Rs. 2,459,706, respectively, and that from British possessions an increase from Rs. 7,887,123 to Rs. 8,217,762. There was an increased demand for gray piece goods and muslin, while that for other piece goods fell. Prices of cotton goods generally were appreciably lower than in 1920. The total value for 1921, though falling short of 1920, was higher than the value for previous years. Cotton embroidery is now shown separately, while previously such imports were classified under the heading "Embroidery" in the returns.

Coal.—The quantity imported showed a decrease from 705,193 tons in 1920 to 640,961 tons in 1921. Imports during the second half of 1921 were about one-third the imports during the first half of the year. British India was the chief source of supply, but imports from that country fell from 640,742 tons in

1920 to 201,479 tons in 1921. Imports from other sources increased, the most noticeable increase being from the United Kingdom, the quantity rising from 6,165 tons in 1920 to 129,568 tons in 1921. The total value of coal imported during the year amounted to Rs. 29,268,364, as against Rs. 29,636,553 in 1920. In 1913 the imports were from the United Kingdom 234,234 tons, from British India 364,020. Since July 1 coke is entered separately in the returns, while previous to that date it was included with coal. Imports of coke are trifling, and the figure for the second six months of 1921 was only 147 tons.

Manure.—Only 343,568 cwt. were imported during the year, as against 1,813,021 in 1920, the decrease being under all heads. Groundnut cake was the variety most in demand in 1920. In 1921 it was bone meal. The total imports in 1921 are less than the quantity of groundnut cake manure alone imported in 1920. British India was the principal country to supply Ceylon with manure. There were no imports of nitrate of soda during the year. Sylvinite is entered separately in the returns from July 1, 1921. The value of all manures imported amounted to Rs. 2,254,899, as compared with Rs. 13,141,891 in 1920.

Kerosine Oil in Bulk and Cases.—Here, again, the total imports fell from 5,106,100 gallons in 1920 to 4,307,378 gallons in 1921. Bulk oil was imported from Persia (2,930,155 gallons) and Sumatra (577,085 gallons), while the United States of America supplied all the case oil, with the exception of 8 gallons, which were imported from British India.

Petrol.—Imports since 1916 have been—

		Gallons.			Gallons.
1916	..	776,092	1919	..	1,175,784
1917	..	884,093	1920	..	988,427
1918	..	680,395	1921	..	1,391,671

All the imports in 1921 were from Sumatra. This quantity is the highest on record.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of horses imported was less than in the previous year, the number for 1920 and 1921 being 317 horses and 188 horses, respectively. This decrease is noticeable in imports of Australian, English, and also Indian horses. Thirty English, 7 Australian, and 28 Indian horses, being each of the value of Rs. 1,000 and over, were subject to duty, horses below that value being admitted free.

The total number of motor cars imported was also less than in 1920. The number of cars other than lorries and chassis fell from 816 to 387. Lorries from 109 to 29 and chassis from 65 to 47. Imports of American, Canadian, and English cars showed a decrease, while the number of French cars imported was one more than in 1920. German cars rose from 3 to 14, including 4 lorries, and Italian cars from 17 to 32, including 1 chassis and 1 lorry. Two Swiss cars were also imported, as against nil in the previous year.

Metals and Metalware.—The value of imports of metals and metalware was Rs. 8,628,902, as against Rs. 16,008,987 in 1920, the decrease being mainly in imports from the United Kingdom, the value of which fell from Rs. 10,874,198 to Rs. 4,825,996. Of the total value for 1921, the share of the United Kingdom was 56 per cent., and that of the two next largest suppliers, Burma and the United States of America, 14 per cent. each. The importation of hardware and galvanized goods, iron bars, &c., as well as of tea lead and hoop iron, decreased as compared with 1920.

Cement.—Imports fell in quantity from 353,604 cwt. in 1920 to 193,192 cwt. in 1921, the bulk of the imports in both the years was from the United Kingdom. The next largest supplier for 1921 was Germany. Imports from that country were 30,463 cwt., as against nil in the previous year. Imports of cement by the Government were considerably more than in 1920, the quantity being 687 cwt. and 181,646 cwt. for 1920 and 1921, respectively.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon, with the percentages of value supplied by each :—

		1919.		1920.		1921.
		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	14·16	..	24·11	..	25·08
2.	British India	30·36	..	23·66	..	24·51
3.	Burma	23·95	..	30·29	..	23·01
4.	Natal	1·42	..	·47	..	3·40
5.	Java	2·87	..	2·04	..	3·04
6.	United States of America	3·36	..	3·37	..	2·72
7.	Straits Settlements	3·8	..	2·26	..	2·7
8.	Japan	3·5	..	2·18	..	1·57
9.	Persia	1·09	..	·85	..	1·53
10.	Borneo (excluding British)	2·51	..	1·66	..	1·48
11.	Other British Possessions in					
	Africa	1·09	..	·25	..	1·06
12.	Holland	·34	..	·97	..	1·06
13.	Maldiv Islands	·9	..	·77	..	1·06
14.	New South Wales	·54	..	·35	..	·94
15.	Sumatra	·93	..	·39	..	·9
16.	France	·66	..	·86	..	·74
17.	Hong Kong	·78	..	·58	..	·58
18.	Germany	—	..	·27	..	·56
19.	West Australia	·04	..	·33	..	·56
20.	Siam	3·93	..	·25	..	·45
21.	Italy	·07	..	·36	..	·45
22.	Victoria	·27	..	·34	..	·36
23.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·51	..	·51	..	·31
24.	Canada	·03	..	·32	..	·27
25.	Sweden	·08	..	·21	..	·25
26.	Queensland	·03	..	·1	..	·24
27.	South Australia	·86	..	·37	..	·22
28.	Switzerland	·25	..	·42	..	·19
29.	Belgium	·14	..	·54	..	·16
30.	British North Borneo	—	..	—	..	·1
31.	Russia in Europe	·22	..	·11	..	·09
32.	Norway	·13	..	·34	..	·06
33.	Egypt	·06	..	·18	..	·06

The United Kingdom, British India, Burma, and Natal head the list, and together supplied three-quarters of the import trade of Ceylon. Natal rose from the sixteenth place in 1920 to the fourth place in 1921 by virtue of her sending larger supplies of coal. The United States of America was the principal foreign supplier in 1920, being placed fourth in the list. Java now ranks as the principal foreign supplier, but is placed only fifth in the list. The latter's position is due to her supplying Ceylon with more sugar than in 1920. The value of goods supplied by these two countries in 1921 was Rs. 7,095,718 and Rs. 7,928,468, respectively, as compared with Rs. 10,821,428 and Rs. 6,559,565, respectively, in the previous year.

EXPORTS.

The staple products of Ceylon exported in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.		
		1919.	1920.	1921.
1.	Tea	1,165	808	1,127
2.	Rubber	1,321	900	516
3.	Coconut, desiccated	249	183	266
4.	Copra	323	284	243
5.	Coconut oil	257	199	150
6.	Arecanuts	30	29	33
7.	Coconut, fresh	3	10	24
8.	Cacao	31	25	20
9.	Cinnamon	37	21	18
10.	Coir fibre	17	16	11
11.	Citronella oil	9	11	11
12.	Poonac	5	6	9

		Lakhs of Rupees.		
		1919.	1920.	1921.
13.	Plumbago	17 ..	21 ..	8
14.	Coir yarn	11 ..	8 ..	6
15.	Tobacco, unmanufactured ..	6 ..	8 ..	6
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	10 ..	9 ..	6
17.	Cardamoms	9 ..	5 ..	5

The year was a bad one for the rubber industry, while it was a prosperous one for the tea industry. Tea fetched very good prices during the second half of the year, the average being 62 cents per pound for the first six months and 70 cents per pound for the whole year. The exports of plumbago in 1921 has been the lowest for the three years, the price obtainable, as well as the demand for the article, being unfavourable.

A table is also annexed showing the quantities of the several products exported during these years :—

		1919.	1920.	1921.
1.	Tea lb.	208,560,943 ..	184,770,231 ..	161,610,966
2.	Rubber Cwt.	900,197 ..	790,648 ..	786,834
3.	Coconut, desiccated .. Cwt.	675,080 ..	518,735 ..	870,515
4.	Copra Cwt.	1,759,525 ..	1,357,870 ..	1,367,431
5.	Coconut oil Cwt.	675,999 ..	507,527 ..	484,724
6.	Arecanuts Cwt.	150,457 ..	124,048 ..	131,045
7.	Coconut, fresh .. No.	3,390,710 ..	9,776,479 ..	23,738,542
8.	Cacao Cwt.	58,884 ..	56,397 ..	62,245
9.	Cinnamon Cwt.	68,755 ..	35,121 ..	45,364
10.	Coir fibre Cwt.	239,391 ..	252,568 ..	202,267
11.	Citronella oil lb.	992,850 ..	1,022,809 ..	1,160,555
12.	Poonac Cwt.	87,341 ..	92,452 ..	160,699
13.	Plumbago Cwt.	133,428 ..	184,100 ..	86,996
14.	Coir yarn Cwt.	112,076 ..	72,438 ..	60,710
15.	Tobacco, unmanufactured .. lb.	1,739,392 ..	3,590,474 ..	2,411,419
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed) Cwt.	12,899 ..	12,925 ..	8,353
17.	Cardamoms Cwt.	4,870 ..	3,754 ..	4,512

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures* are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

		1919.	1920.	1921.
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	42·13 ..	47·59 ..	47·47
2.	United States of America ..	33·52 ..	22·8 ..	22
3.	Germany	·02 ..	1·55 ..	4·05
4.	British India	6·83 ..	3·92 ..	3·12
5.	Holland	1·33 ..	5·3 ..	3·01
6.	New South Wales	1·25 ..	1·74 ..	2·19
7.	Denmark	1·59 ..	1·7 ..	2·14
8.	Italy	·51 ..	·71 ..	1·91
9.	Victoria	1·08 ..	1·26 ..	1·8
10.	Canada	1·78 ..	1·78 ..	1·73
11.	New Zealand	·34 ..	1·17 ..	1·45
12.	Egypt	1·28 ..	1·47 ..	1·31
13.	Norway	·51 ..	1·31 ..	1·13
14.	Belgium	2·07 ..	2·14 ..	1·09
15.	Natal	·16 ..	·32 ..	·72
16.	Cape Colony	·38 ..	·42 ..	·7
17.	France	2·22 ..	1·71 ..	·58
18.	Japan	·2 ..	·37 ..	·47
19.	Straits Settlements	·49 ..	·39 ..	·39
20.	Sweden	·01 ..	·19 ..	·37
21.	South Australia	·13 ..	·3 ..	·34
22.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar) ..	·11 ..	·13 ..	·29
23.	Queensland	·04 ..	·12 ..	·27
24.	West Australia	·15 ..	·19 ..	·26
25.	Philippines	·33 ..	·32 ..	·25
26.	South America (excluding Chili) ..	·16 ..	·27 ..	·19
27.	Other British Possessions in Africa ..	·3 ..	·16 ..	·14
28.	Newfoundland	·1 ..	·12 ..	·1

* The figures thus exclude imports re-exported and specie.

A feature of the year is the improved position of Germany, which now ranks as the principal foreign buyer but one. The total value of goods exported to that country amounted to Rs. 10,038,999 for the year, and consisted chiefly of the following :—

Tea.—The quantities exported during the past seven years are shown below in millions of pounds.

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1915 ..	215	1919 ..	208
1916 ..	203	1920 ..	184
1917 ..	195	1921 ..	161
1918 ..	180		

Of the quantity for 1921, 159,302,769 lb. were black tea and 2,308,197 lb. green, exported chiefly to India, the United States of America, and to Canada. The tea manufactured was of a particularly high grade, and the aim of the exporter being to put on the market good quality teas, so as to counteract the effect of the temporary glut in the market which was experienced early in the year. The increase in the average price of the article was from 43·72 cents per pound in 1920 to 70 cents per pound in 1921.

The distribution among the principal countries, with their increases or decreases, is shown in the following table :—

	1921. lb.	1920. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	110,887,396	119,690,793	—	8,803,397
<i>British Possessions.</i>				
British India	1,590,404	4,122,167	—	2,531,763
Canada	4,408,819	7,123,971	—	2,715,152
Cape Colony	2,278,375	2,037,208	241,167	—
Egypt	1,788,067	4,417,990	—	2,629,923
Hong Kong	151,269	297,041	—	145,772
Mauritius	191,965	279,705	—	87,740
Natal	2,341,862	1,622,047	719,815	—
Newfoundland	333,903	711,118	—	3737,215
New South Wales	6,943,631	8,083,413	—	1,139,782
New Zealand	4,725,983	6,131,739	—	1,405,756
Other British Possessions in				
Africa	450,412	870,136	—	428,724
Queensland	841,579	559,962	281,617	—
South Australia	1,039,836	1,492,056	—	452,220
Straits Settlements	774,815	1,099,431	—	324,616
Victoria	5,215,823	5,565,347	—	349,524
West Australia	730,434	918,070	—	187,636
Other British Possessions	263,509	491,569	—	228,060
	34,070,686	45,831,970	1,242,599	13,003,883
			Deduct Increase	1,242,599
			Nett Decrease	11,761,284

<i>Foreign Countries.</i>				
	1921. lb.	1920. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
France	515,160	1,025,277	—	510,117
Japan	234,964	254,025	—	19,061
South America (excluding Chili)	357,463	1,198,140	—	840,677
United States of America	14,611,334	14,735,804	—	124,470
Other Foreign Countries	933,963	2,034,222	—	1,100,259
Total Foreign Countries	16,652,864	19,247,468	—	2,594,584
Total	161,610,966	184,770,231	—	23,159,265

Only countries which took over one hundred thousand pounds each in 1921 are shown separately in the table. It will be seen that there have been reduced exports to all the important countries, with the exception of Natal, Queensland, and the Cape Colony.

Products of the Coconut Palm exported were valued at 713 lakhs, as against 709 lakhs in 1920. The exports of the three principal products for the past six years have been—

		Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.		Copra. Cwt.		Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1916	..	306,149	..	1,309,939	..	323,017
1917	..	272,059	..	1,078,704	..	434,699
1918	..	203,366	..	1,272,321	..	527,481
1919	..	675,060	..	1,759,525	..	675,999
1920	..	518,735	..	1,357,870	..	507,527
1921	..	870,515	..	1,367,431	..	484,724

The quantity of desiccated coconuts exported in 1921 constitutes a record. The quantity of copra was less than in 1919, but more than in any of the remaining four years, while exports of coconut oil was more than in 1916 and 1917 and less than in the remaining three years.

Desiccated Coconuts.—The United States of America, our best customer, took 57 per cent. more than in the previous year, and absorbed 42 per cent. of the total exports, as compared with 45 per cent. in 1920. Exports to the United Kingdom represent 31 per cent. of the total, as against 35 per cent. in 1920. Germany continues to hold the third place, and has increased her quantity from 24,891 cwt. in 1920 to 98,764 cwt. in 1921. The average price entered by the exporter was 28 cents per pound, as against 32 cents per pound in 1920. More desiccated coconuts was exported during the second half year than during the first half year.

Copra.—Denmark, Holland, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, and Norway were the principal countries to buy copra in 1921. These are mentioned in order of importance. The total quantity exported during the second half year was more than double the exports during the first half year. Holland was the principal purchaser of copra in 1920. The average price entered by the exporters was Rs. 17·77 per cwt., as against Rs. 20·92 per cwt. in the previous year.

Coconut Oil.—The bulk of the exports was taken by the United Kingdom, the quantity being 268,219 cwt. out of the total of 484,724 cwt. exported. The next important buyers were Holland (78,833 cwt.), Egypt (32,958 cwt.), Norway (28,828 cwt.), and Germany (25,036 cwt.). The United Kingdom and Germany bought more than in 1920, and Holland and Norway less. Exports to Egypt were practically the same as in the previous year. Here, again, the average price was less than in 1920, but prices during the first half were slightly higher than during the second half year. Only 2,006 cwt. was exported to the United States of America, and this was during the first half year, as against 29,267 cwt. in 1920 and 147,031 cwt. in 1919. The new proposed American Tariff had an adverse effect on the trade in coconut oil. It was withdrawn too late in the year to admit of any exports taking place before the close of the year.

Rubber.—The total quantity exported was practically the same as in the previous year, the quantity being 88,552,542 lb. and 88,125,425 lb. for 1920 and 1921, respectively. There was a better demand from the United States of America, which country took five-eighths of the total exports for the year. The price went down considerably, but there was a recovery towards the close of the year, which relieved the situation.

V.—SHIPPING.

3,621 vessels, with a tonnage of 9,134,066, entered the various ports of the Island in 1921, a decrease of 371 vessels and a tonnage of 584,002 as compared with 1920. The following table shows the number and tonnage of the vessels under four general heads for these two years :—

	1920.		1921.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast) ..	2,016	5,830,177	2,030	6,551,930
Merchant vessels (called to coal) ..	967	3,171,546	639	2,205,698
Native sailing vessels ..	867	86,737	881	91,590
Warships and transports* ..	142	629,608	71	284,948
	<u>3,992</u>	<u>9,718,068</u>	<u>3,621</u>	<u>9,134,066</u>

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Omitting merchant vessels which called only to coal, and also warships and transports, the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1920 and 1921 is shown below :—

	1920.		1921.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	1,389	3,674,155	1,474	4,448,308
British Colonial ..	867	86,737	881	91,590
Total British Vessels ..	<u>2,256</u>	<u>3,760,892</u>	<u>2,355</u>	<u>4,539,898</u>
American ..	53	202,811	35	133,521
Belgian ..	2	6,353	—	—
Chinese ..	2	3,761	1	3,871
Danish ..	17	23,093	14	19,871
Dutch ..	117	449,463	129	601,723
French ..	106	438,066	85	392,393
German ..	—	—	20	81,414
Greek ..	—	—	1	1,881
Italian ..	61	204,407	51	178,488
Japanese ..	196	695,261	169	588,958
Norwegian ..	50	74,279	25	31,169
Portuguese ..	—	—	1	2,404
Russian ..	1	836	—	—
Spanish ..	11	26,316	11	26,098
Swedish ..	11	31,376	14	41,731
	<u>627</u>	<u>2,156,022</u>	<u>556</u>	<u>2,103,522</u>

Of the vessels under the principal foreign flags, those under the Norwegian flag show a considerable falling off, while twenty vessels have entered under the German flag for the first time since the cessation of war.

COLOMBO PORT COMMISSION.

Owing to the trade depression in the Colony, the policy of retrenchment, followed in previous years in consequence of the war, was continued, and only very urgent works were undertaken during the year.

The warehouse area is at the present time adequate for the trade of the Port, and it is not proposed for the present that further warehouse construction should be undertaken.

The construction of and arrangements in connection with the new oil depôts at Colombo are now practically complete. The work of preparing the site for the Oil Installations Dépôt at Kolonnawa is almost complete. The total excavation will be completed when it is found convenient to demolish the

existing buildings at present being used as offices, &c. It is estimated that on final completion of the depôt the area developed will amount to 83 acres 1 rood and 36 perches. Four oil companies, viz., the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, the Standard Oil Company of New York, and Messrs. Cory Brothers and Company, Limited, have already taken up allotments at the depôt, and have constructed or are constructing the necessary storage tanks, &c. Sites have also been allotted to them at the Measuring Tanks Depôt at Bloemendahl. The discharge jetty on the northern side of the Graving Dock Guide Pier and the two bunkering jetties inside the North-east Breakwater were completed in July, 1921. Work in connection with the two main pipe lines—10-inch line for fuel oil and 8-inch line for kerosine—connecting the discharge jetty at the harbour with the exchange station at the Oil Installations Depôt, Kolonnawa, was completed at the end of January, 1922. From the main pipe line for fuel oil a branch line is also provided to the exchange station at the Bloemendahl Measuring Tanks Depôt. The pipe lines from the measuring tanks to the bunkering jetties are practically complete. The pumping plant required for propelling oil has been installed at the harbour and Kolonnawa pumping stations. The work of providing electric lighting for the Kolonnawa depôt and a telephone service for the whole oil scheme is being pushed forward to completion in time for the official opening of the installation, which will take place shortly.

The branch railway line from the Main line to the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt has recently been completed, and is used temporarily for transport purposes in connection with the Oil Installations Depôt.

Good progress has also been made with the harbour rail extension connecting the Main line with the harbour direct in the vicinity of the Graving Dock. The work of connecting the existing lines in the Customs premises south of the Passenger Jetty with the existing harbour lines near the Harbour Engineer's present premises has been completed. The rest of the work is well in hand.

The constructional work connected with the Lake Development Scheme has been practically completed. The lake to harbour canal is complete, except for the fendering of the Main street and Norris road bridges and the entrances to the locks, which still remains to be done. The canals from the harbour to the locks and the additional basin are dredged to a depth of $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet below mean sea level; when dredging is complete the depth will be 10 feet below mean sea level. The locks between the lake and the canal have continued to be used by the Lake Development Department, but owing to the trade depression the canal has not so far been used for commercial purposes. An area of 14,200 square feet of the Lakeside Warehouse has been completed, and is being temporarily used for storing Government cement and paper. The completion of the full area of this warehouse is postponed indefinitely. Good progress was also made in the deviation of Lotus Pond road.

During the earlier part of the year dredging work in the harbour was confined to the site for the discharge and bunkering jetties. This work was carried on till July by the dredger "Sir John Coode." The new dredger "Sir William Matthews" arrived in the harbour on May 25, 1921. After her preliminary trials, which were carried out satisfactorily, she was put on to work at the oil jetties and inner harbour dredging until September, when the dredging of a special area of the harbour to accommodate H. M. S. "Renown" took precedence over that work.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) which visited Colombo Harbour in 1921 amounted to 8,596,710 tons; in addition, 71 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 284,948 tons and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 14,107 tons entered the Port.

Fifty-two vessels were docked during the year, and 25 vessels were taken on to the Patent Slip; 25 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1921 show a considerable increase, being Rs. 135,894·95 and Rs. 46,242·93, respectively, against Rs. 68,243·58 and Rs. 2,714 in the previous year. Rs. 6,619·50 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 5,170 in 1920.

The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the financial year 1920–21, including Rs. 2,432,917·69 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installations Scheme, was Rs. 6,164,902. Of this amount Rs. 2,424·93 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and the sum of Rs. 246,529·79 expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services was Rs. 5,918,372·21. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 3,104,912·32.

A considerable amount of work was carried on during the year in connection with the men recruited during the war by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee and sent for service overseas. A large number of inquiries—both written and verbal—were attended to, especially regarding balances of pay due to men who had already been discharged and returned to Ceylon, the health and the return of men recruited, and re-employment on return to Ceylon. Out of the 1,218 men recruited by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee, so far only 640 have reported at the Colombo Port Commission Office on termination of engagement.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-three Ordinances were passed during the year, the majority of them being amending Ordinances, which call for no special comment.

Of the consolidating or new Ordinances, the most important are:—

Ordinance No. 5.—Certain amendments of the law were required to allow of a loan being floated in London, and occasion was taken to repeal and re-enact Ordinances Nos. 22 of 1907 and 28 of 1914 with the necessary amendments. Section 12 defines the expression “outstanding debentures,” and section 13 allows of the rate of contribution to the sinking fund being fixed with reference to the prospectus or terms of issue. The limitation of the interest to 4 per centum by section 24 of Ordinance No. 22 of 1907 is omitted, as it would obviously be impossible in existing conditions to raise a loan at such interest.

Ordinance No. 7.—The object of the Ordinance is to enable the Colony to be brought under the provisions of “The Colonial Probates Act, 1892,” for mutual recognition of probates and letters of administration.

Ordinance No. 15.—Passed for facilitating the enforcement in the Colony of maintenance orders made in England and Ireland, and *vice versâ*.

Ordinance No. 33.—When customs duties are to be increased or altered it is obvious that if the revenue is not to suffer, either the measure must be passed in one day, or there must be provision for protecting the revenue by levying such increased rates from the date the bill is approved by the Governor till it is passed, any adjustment consequent on the rates being disallowed or altered in Council being effected subsequently. There are obvious objections to the hurried consideration of tariff questions, and the latter alternative has been adopted and provision made for the proposed tariff coming into force on an order made by the Governor.

- Ordinance No. 34.—Relates to the constitution and control of co-operative societies, and effects a large number of amendments of varying importance found necessary in the working of the law as it stood. This new Ordinance is based to a considerable extent on the corresponding Indian enactment.
- Ordinance No. 37.—Passed to give a legal status to the Department of Agriculture, which, particularly since the recent shortage of foodstuffs in the Island, has increased its sphere of activity.
- Ordinance No. 38.—Passed to provide machinery for destroying domesticated or confined animals which prove to be dangerous and uncontrollable.
- Ordinance No. 41.—Passed to provide for the reciprocal enforcement of judgments of the courts of the United Kingdom or of British Possessions and Protectorates and this Colony.
- Ordinance No. 43.—Mainly repealing the provisions of the law which provided for the punishment by criminal courts, or breaches of contracts of service between immigrant labourers and their employers, and for the abolition of the system known as the tundu system, by which the debts due by labourers to their employers were transferred to a new employer on the labourers effecting a change of service, owing to the fact that the system was open to abuse.

VII.—EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The most important event of the year from the point of view of education was the establishment of a University College in Colombo. This institution was opened in January, 1921, and a Principal and a Staff of Professors and Lecturers have been appointed, and courses in the following subjects arranged, in preparation for the Intermediate and Final Arts and Science Degree Examinations of the University of London :—

English	Education
Latin	Chemistry
Greek	Physics
History	Mathematics
Economics	Botany
Philosophy	Zoology

Admission to the full course is confined to students who have been registered as matriculated students of the University of London. One hundred and fifty students joined in January, and at the commencement of the new academic year in October, 1921, there were over two hundred on the roll.

An Advisory Council and Boards of Studies have been appointed. It is proposed that as early as convenient the institution shall be incorporated as a University for Ceylon.

New chemical, physical, and biological laboratories were opened in October. All registered students of the Ceylon Medical College receive their first professional course in chemistry and physics and biology at the University College. During the year a College Union Society was formed, to which sports and other clubs were attached. Plans were discussed for the establishment of college hostels.

SCHOOLS GENERALLY.

Schools in Ceylon may be broadly divided into two classes: English and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 90 per cent. of the school-going population. The English schools provide (a) elementary education, leading up to the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination; (b) secondary education, leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the Intermediate Examinations in Arts and Science of London University. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English Schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Three such schools have been opened at Henaratgoda, Piliyandala, and Veyangoda, respectively, in the Western Province.

The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese and Tamil-speaking homes who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

In 1921 there were 942 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 95,256 boys and 37,217 girls. There were also 1,861 aided schools, with an attendance of 123,179 boys and 76,716 girls. Of these, 269 were estate schools, with an attendance of 9,866 boys and 1,803 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1921 was Rs. 1,783,491.34, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance is in force in the following towns:—

Municipalities	..	Colombo, Kandy, and Galle.
Local Board Towns:—		
Western Province	..	Kalutara, Moratuwa, and Negombo.
Central Province	..	Gampola, Hatton-Dikoya, Matale, Nawalapitiya, and Nuwara Eliya.
Province of Sabaragamuwa.		Kegalla and Ratnapura.
North-Central Province	..	Anuradhapura.
North-Western Province	..	Kurunegala and Chilaw.
Eastern Province	..	Batticaloa and Trincomalee.
Northern Province	..	Jaffna.
Southern Province	..	Matara.

SCHOOLS TEACHING ENGLISH.

In 1921 there were 259 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 43,786 pupils, of whom 32,500 were boys and 11,286 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 542.

The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 62,047·80, and the fees recovered amounted to Rs. 38,221. There were 24 State-aided secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools, 1921.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll, and Average Attendance on March 31, 1921.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.
<i>Western.</i>					
Church of England	.. St. Thomas's College B	727	6	733	687
Do.	.. Bishop's College G	5	170	175	155
Church Missionary Society	.. C.M.S. Ladies' College G	52	227	279	231
Private	.. Panadure, St. John's M	148	29	177	171
Roman Catholic	.. St. Joseph's College B	702	—	702	533
Do.	.. St. Benedict's College B	1,120	—	1,120	850
Do.	.. St. Bridget's Convent G	74	295	369	304
Do.	.. Bambalapitiya Convent G	98	313	411	333
Do.	.. Kotahena Convent G	72	661	733	566
Wesleyan	.. Wesley College B	413	—	413	359
Do.	.. Methodist College G	16	241	257	213
<i>Southern.</i>					
Roman Catholic	.. St. Aloysius's College B	474	—	474	413
Do.	.. Galle Convent G	51	200	251	194
Wesleyan	.. Richmond College B	416	3	419	353
<i>Central.</i>					
Church Missionary Society	.. Kandy (Hillwood) G	14	93	107	90
Do.	.. Trinity College B	561	4	565	540
Roman Catholic	.. St. Anthony's College B	448	11	459	369
Do.	.. Kandy Convent G	65	279	344	260
Wesleyan	.. Kandy G	33	205	238	189
<i>Northern.</i>					
American	.. Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai B	394	—	394	314
Church Missionary Society	.. Chundikuli G	48	157	205	155
Do.	.. St. John's College B	474	—	474	375
Roman Catholic	.. St. Patrick's College B	592	—	592	532
Wesleyan	.. Jaffna Central College B	374	—	374	311
		24	7,371	2,894	10,265
					8,497

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1920 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	725	52	348
Junior	1,015	98	451

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1921 showed that 452 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 135 of whom passed. In addition, 13 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees and 9 the Second Examination, Part I. Eighty-four candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 52 for the Intermediate Examination in Science, 6 for the Intermediate Examination in Laws. Ten candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 7 for the B.Sc., but the results of these examinations have not yet reached Ceylon.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations as laid down in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the

average attendance. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1920-21 amounted to Rs. 862,625-26.

Three Government scholarships are now offered: one on the results of the Intermediate Arts Examination of the London University, and two on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. Scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passages and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. The third scholarship is awarded on condition that the holder studies agriculture and natural science, and on completing his course accepts an appointment in the Department of Agriculture, Ceylon.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, Member of the Legislative Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

The member of the Buddhist priesthood—Rev. Suriyagoda Sumangala Thero—who had been sent to the University of Oxford for two years on an annual scholarship provided by Government and private subscriptions in equal shares, has had his scholarship extended for a period of six months at the expense of Government.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of English schools in the Island :—

<i>Elementary Schools.</i>		Per Mensem.
		Rs.
Infant Department, Standard I. and Standard II.	..	1
Standards III. to V.	..	2
Standards VI. to VIII.	..	3
<i>Secondary Schools.</i>		
<i>Lower Schools, as in Elementary Schools.</i>		
Standards V. to VIII. and Junior School Examination Class	..	5
Higher Classes	..	7

GOVERNMENT TRAINING COLLEGE.

The Government Training College consists of four departments: English (men and women), Anglo-vernacular (men only), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1921 the number of students in training was in the English side 36 men and 44 women, in the Anglo-vernacular 14 men, in the Sinhalese 30 men, 30 women.

Eight graduate student teachers were trained at the University College during the year, and 20 others were admitted.

Arrangements are being made to open a Tamil Training School at Jaffna.

Trained teachers at present command good salaries, and there is a good demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven at the time of examination for admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools. Further classes of 20 each were formed in 1919 and 1920. The board and lodging of these boys are paid by public subscription. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Standard VIII., and are much in advance of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined. No class was formed in 1921 owing to want of accommodation and funds.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

In 1921 the aided industrial schools, which are 33 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 15,990. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, and gardening. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by

Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. It is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 358 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1921 was Rs. 49,891·68. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1921 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island, by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 23 schools, and 18 schools have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Five schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, and 12 others are awaiting equipment. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 4 schools. Shoemaking and smithy work in 2 schools. Cane and rattan work in 3 schools. One school is ready equipped for lacquer work, and 2 are being equipped. One school is being equipped for pottery work. Basket-making and mat-weaving are taught in several schools. Hat-making is making good progress in the Kalutara District, and in 16 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of Schools Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered Government school gardens at the end of 1921 was 389. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 95. 150 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

Thirteen Government teachers underwent a special course of training at Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seed being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Forty teachers are being trained in the boarding school for teaching agriculture and English to vernacular teachers, which was opened at Henaratgoda in 1919.

TECHNICAL.

In addition to night classes in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry, and joinery, drawing classes for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics, the following classes are held:—English, shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping, accountancy, method of business, and commercial arithmetic. These classes are well attended.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 8, 1921. There were 40 students at the end of the year. Sixty-two scholarships have been promised, of which 12 have been paid in full, and in the case of 42 scholarships the first instalment of Rs. 100 has been paid. The total amount collected is Rs. 10,028·66. Manual training, woodwork, iron work, and drawing are taught in this school.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

Domestic science is now being introduced as one of the subjects in the curriculum for girls' schools. A qualified Supervisor of Domestic Science assumed duties on May 12, 1920, and classes were started in the Domestic Science rooms, especially remodelled and equipped for the purpose, at the Government Training College.

Vacation classes at the Training College were held in August.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND METEOROLOGY.

The health of the Colony was generally satisfactory during the year. Influenza, which had been very bad two years previously, was less prevalent, and its character was milder. Malaria was still very prevalent in the Wann districts and in the North, and caused a great deal of trouble on the new railway extensions to Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Pattalam. There were no epidemics during the year, and plague in Colombo showed an improvement over the preceding year. The outbreak of plague in Kandy in 1920 was effectually arrested during that year, and no further cases occurred in 1921.

Parangi is still prevalent in the Wann districts, and in the backward parts of Uva and the Eastern Province. Considerable attention has been given to this disease, and conditions are improving considerably. The disease is treated with salvarsan, and considerable quantities of this drug have been imported. Special Itinerating Medical Officers have also been appointed to certain areas, and the reports of the Government Agents on their work are very encouraging. A Special Committee was appointed during the year to make further recommendations to Government for dealing with the disease.

A clinic was opened in Colombo for the treatment of venereal diseases.

The campaign against anchylostomiasis, carried on conjointly by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Ceylon Government, has continued its work during the year, but the depression in the tea and rubber industries has caused a setback. Three village areas in the Western Province, viz., Henaratgoda, Veyangoda, and Kalutara, were treated during the year, and a separate campaign has been started for prisoners in the jails.

The following statistics of plague, cholera, and smallpox will be found interesting :—

		<i>Plague.</i>		Cases.		Deaths.	
Colombo	184	..	170	
Talaumannar	1	..	1	
Hirimure (Galle)	1	..	1	
Mulleriyawa	1	..	1	
ss. " Karmala "	1	..	1	
<i>Smallpox.</i>							
Colombo	12	..	3	
Steamer cases—							
ss. " Clan Kenneth "	1	..	—	
ss. " Lorenzo "	1	..	—	
ss. " Lady McCallum " (Hambantota)	1	..	—	
Outside Colombo—							
Kayts	1	..	—	
Rayigama	1	..	—	
Valvettiturai	1	..	—	

Cholera.

Nil.

Plague in Colombo.—184 cases of plague occurred during the year, as against 235 in 1920 and an average of 206 during the seven years 1914–1920.

The mortality rate for all cases was 92·4 per cent., as against the average of 93·9. There were 70 cases of septicæmic and 114 of bubonic plague, this being the second year in succession in which the bubonic type has exceeded in number the septicæmic type.

The case mortality amongst the septicæmic cases was, as usual, 100 per cent., while the bubonic case mortality was 86·3 per cent. The sharp outbreak which began during the last quarter of 1920 continued until the end of February, 1921, when it began to subside rapidly, and fell below the average in March,

from which date, with the exception of one week in April, it remained well below the average during the rest of the year. The majority of the cases occurred, as usual, amongst young adults. The chief centre of the disease was, as usual, in the Sea street—Pettah area—with small localized outbreaks at Dean's road, Nagalagam, and Colpetty road near the police station. Only a few sporadic cases occurred in other parts of the town.

Rat Plague.—The distribution of rat plague was very similar to that of human plague, with the exception that there was sharp outbreak in March amongst the rats at the Customs premises, without, however, the occurrence of any human infection there. During the year 163,200 rats were trapped, killed, or found dead, of which 157,628 were trapped, 5,046 were killed by the Clayton fumigators, and 426 were found dead. 33,272 rats, including all those killed by the Claytons, were examined bacteriologically, with the result that 67 or 0·20 per cent. were found to be infected, as against an infection rate of 0·67 during 1920. There was an unusually sharp outbreak of plague amongst the rats in the Fourth Cross street area of the Pettah during the last three months of the year.

Prevention.—The special measures which were adopted in December, 1920, were carried on throughout the year, and were greatly assisted by the importation of five new Claytons and the employment of additional staff, which were set to work towards the end of June.

The annual statements show the chief statistical features for the eight years since plague first appeared in Ceylon :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	Average 1914 to 1921. 1920.	1921.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	206	184
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	193	170
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	113	70
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	113	70
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	93	114
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	80	100
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Total case mortality	92·2	92·6	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	93·9	92·4
Septicæmic case mortality	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic case mortality	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	86·3	87·7

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	Average 1914 to 1921. 1920.	1921.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	15	65
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	24	53
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	22	27
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	13	7
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	9	2
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	15	1
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	16	3
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	15	2
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	13	2
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	18	9
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	20	4
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	26	9
Total for the year	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	206	184
Monthly mean	34·4	11·6	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	19·6	17·2	15·3

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

Ceylon is well supplied with hospitals and dispensaries, most of which have been provided by Government. There are 87 Government hospitals, including a hospital for chronic cases of tuberculosis, all equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. Of these hospitals, two were recently opened, one at Kilinochchi in the Northern Province and one at Ridigama in the North-Western Province. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 711. In addition to the hospitals there are 474 central and branch dispensaries, including a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis provided with a modern X-ray apparatus. There is also a tuberculosis sanatorium at Kandana to the north of Colombo. Ceylon possesses two leper asylums and a lunatic asylum, which accommodated last year from 960 to 1,061 patients.

The owners of estates have provided under the Medical Wants Ordinances 68 estate hospitals, towards the upkeep of which they receive a rebate on export duties on tea and rubber, and also 475 estate dispensaries receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

The scheme in contemplation for the rebuilding of the Ceylon Medical College remained deferred. The full course of training at the college is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1919, October, to 1920, March ..	201	74	6	10
1920, May, to 1920, July ..	181	60	5	11
1920, October, to 1921, March ..	226	62	3	3
1921, May, to 1921, July ..	203	53	7	15

Colombo possesses a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 711 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, & Hospital for Women and Children, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

ASYLUMS.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 966 inmates on December 31; the new asylum buildings at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, are still in progress, and when completed will have accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. At present, owing to insufficient accommodation in the Colombo asylum, about 150 lunatic patients are accommodated in a temporary asylum at Matara. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1921 was 1,641 (1,026 males and 615 females). The number discharged was 478 (333 males and 145 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation.

Of the two leper asylums, one is at Hendala, 6 miles from Colombo, and contained 505 patients at the end of the year, the total number treated during 1921 being 594. The other is the recently opened asylum at Mantivu in the Eastern Province, to which the patients of the leper ward hitherto attached to the Kalmunai hospital were removed; 59 lepers remained in the Mantivu asylum at the end of the year.

A House for Incurables of 80 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The chief event connected with the vital statistics of the Island during the year was the census of the population, which was taken on the night of March 18, under the superintendence of Mr. L. J. B. Turner, C.C.S.

Population.—The population as enumerated on that day was 4,497,686 persons (2,381,072 males and 2,116,614 females), exclusive of the military, shipping, and miscellaneous, and showed an increase of 9·5 per cent. during the decade, which was much less than the increases recorded in the two previous censuses. Estimated on the basis of the census figures, the population at the end of 1921 was 4,538,360, as against 4,510,297 at the end of 1920, or an increase of ·6 per cent. during the year. The excess of births over deaths amounted to 43,168, and the loss by excess of emigration over immigration 20,509. The estimated population of the various races and the proportion per 1,000 of the total population at the end of 1921 were as follows:—

			Population on December 31, 1921.	Proportion per 1,000 of Total Population.
Europeans .	..	..	8,501	1·9
Burghers ..	..	..	29,311	6·4
Sinhalese ..	..	..	3,046,473	671·9
Tamils ..	..	..	1,124,819	247·8
Moors ..	..	..	286,862	63·2
Malays ..	..	..	13,932	3·1
Others ..	..	..	24,907	5·5

Marriages.—The marriages registered in 1921 numbered 23,100, of which 18,131 were under the general marriage Ordinance, and 4,969 under the Kandyan. The total number was higher than that registered in any of the three previous years, during which the number of marriages had noticeably fallen, and was nearly equal to the average number which obtained in the past decade. The rate of persons married per mille of the estimated population was 11, as against 10·4 in the previous year and 11·7 the average for the decade 1909–1918. The approach of the marriage rate to the normal indicates a return of the normal conditions after the years of war and influenza..

Births.—The births registered during the year numbered 183,917 (93,519 males and 90,398 females). The number was the second highest on record, the highest being 183,975 registered in 1917. Compared with the number of births registered in 1920, there were 20,198 more children born in 1921. The total number during the year corresponded to a rate of 40·8 per mille of the estimated population, as against 36·3 the average for the two years 1919–1920 and 38·0 the average for the decade 1909–1918. The proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children born in 1921 was 1,035, as against 1,042 in 1920.

In the 33 principal towns the births registered numbered 22,408, and corresponded to a rate of 38·8 per mille of the urban population, as against 28·2 in 1920. The urban birth-rate for the year is markedly above the average rate for the decade 1911–1920, which was 27·6. In the city of Colombo the births registered during the year amounted to 8,685, and the corresponding rate was 35·6 or 11·2 per mille more than in 1920.

Deaths.—The deaths registered during the year numbered 140,749, of which 71,081 were males and 69,668 females. Though the number is 7,794 more than in the previous year, the mortality shows a marked improvement on the numbers registered in 1918 and 1919. The deaths during the year yield a rate of 31·3 per mille of the estimated population, as against 29·6 in the previous year, and 37·6 in 1919. Compared with the average rate of the

past two years this year's rate shows an improvement of 2·3 per mille ; but compared with the average rate for the decade 1909-1918, the mortality shows an increase of 1·8 per mille. The increased mortality during the year would seem to be largely due to the higher death-rate from " pyrexia " than in the previous year.

Estate Deaths.—The total number of deaths registered on estates during the year amounted to 18,073, and showed a decrease of 3,357 deaths on the previous year.

Urban Deaths.—In the principal towns the mortality during the year was slightly in excess of the previous year, the number of deaths being 24,404, as against 23,229 in 1920. Of the deaths registered in 1921, the residents in the towns numbered 19,015, corresponding to a standardized rate of 35·9, as against 29·0 in the previous year and 29·5 the average for the decade 1911-1920. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 8,169, of which 6,999 were residents. This number corresponded to a standardized rate of 33·3 per mille, and was 6·2 per mille more than in the previous year.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of infants under one year of age was 35,325, and corresponded to 25 per cent. of the total death at all ages. The rate calculated per 1,000 births registered during the year was equivalent to 192, as against 182 in the previous year. Compared with the average rate for the past decade, this year's rate shows an improvement of 4 per 1,000 births.

On the estates the infant mortality was equal to a rate of 203 per 1,000 births, and shows a decided improvement on the rate of the preceding year (224).

In the principal towns the rate of infant mortality (238 per 1,000 births) is higher than in the Island or on the estates, and is also higher than the corresponding rate (228) recorded in the previous year. In the city of Colombo the infant mortality rate was 240.

Causes of Death.—The classification of causes of death in the Island is based upon the international or Bertillon system. During the year the deaths registered under all causes amounted to 140,749, of which by far the largest number (21,381) was, as usual, attributed to pyrexia. The death-rate per million persons from this cause was 4,748, as against 4,142 in 1920. The death-rates from some of the other principal causes in 1921 per million persons are shown below with the corresponding rates in 1920 :—

	1921.	1920.
Infantile convulsions	3,215	2,909
Diarrhoea	2,792	2,831
Pneumonia	1,490	1,486
Dysentery	945	941
Phthisis	699	699
Influenza	663	812
Anchylostomiasis	651	727
Malaria and malarial cachexia	436	335
Puerperal septicæmia	370	376
Premature birth and congenital defects	350	337
Bronchitis	278	254
Enteric fever	148	194

Influenza.—The deaths registered from influenza during the year numbered 2,986, showing a substantial decrease on the numbers of the previous years since its outbreak. The highest number of deaths was registered in the first quarter of the year. The number gradually declined till the minimum number (489) was reached in the fourth quarter. The deaths from pneumonia, which in several cases was found to be a complication of influenza, however, showed a slight increase during the year, the number being 6,708, as against 6,666 in 1920.

Plague.—The number of deaths attributed to plague during the year was 187, as against 319 in the previous year. The mortality from plague was highest in the first quarter of the year, when the number was 144, being a little more than three-fourths of the total deaths. The lowest number registered was 6 in the third quarter. As usual, by far the greatest number of deaths occurred within the city of Colombo, which was 175. There were no deaths at all during the year in Kandy town, which in the previous year recorded 82 deaths. Three deaths were registered in Colombo District (outside the Municipal limits), 2 in Kalutara, 3 in Galle, 1 in Jaffna, 2 in Mannar, and 1 in Kegalla. In almost all these cases the infection was traceable to Colombo.

Smallpox.—Seven deaths were registered from smallpox during the year, as against 23 in the previous year. Of the deaths registered during the year, 4 were in Colombo District, including 3 deaths in the city, 2 in Galle, and 1 in Matara.

Cholera.—The mortality from cholera (3 deaths) during the year was practically negligible as compared with the deaths, viz., 130, registered in 1920. Of the deaths, 2 were registered in Kandy District of Tamil estate labourers and 1 in Badulla District of a Sinhalese.

Accidents and other Affections produced by External Causes.—During the year 2,152 deaths resulted from accidents and other external violence, showing an appreciable decline on the number (2,498) registered in 1920. The mortality rate per million persons was 478 in 1921 and 557 in 1920. 530, or nearly a fourth of the accidental deaths, were due to fall from trees, while 419, or slightly less than a fifth of the total number, were attributed to drowning. Burns caused 201 deaths, of which 34 were assigned to the bottle lamp. The deaths attributed to the bottle lamp showed a marked fall during the year.

Snake Bite.—249 deaths, corresponding to a rate of 55 per million persons, were registered from snake bite in 1921, as against 261 deaths in 1920.

Homicide.—217 deaths were registered in 1921 as having resulted from homicide, and showed a slight decrease on the number (227) registered in 1920. The death-rate per million persons was 48, or 3 per million less than the rate in 1920.

Suicide.—The number of deaths from suicide in 1921 was 244, being 5 less than in the previous year. The favourite mode of suicide in Ceylon is hanging, which was resorted to by no fewer than 146 persons. The death-rate per million from suicide was 54, as against 56 in the previous year.

Executions.—49 persons underwent the extreme penalty of the law in 1921, as against 39 in 1920.

Causes of Deaths on Estates.—Of the 18,073 deaths registered on estates from all causes, 2,359 were registered from debility of infants under three months, corresponding to a rate of 4,195 per million of the estate population. The death-rate from anchylostomiasis was equivalent to 3,359 per million persons; from pneumonia, 3,073; dysentery, 2,963; diarrhoea, 2,600; infantile convulsions, 2,233; debility of persons over three months, 1,985; premature birth and congenital defects, 939; bronchitis, 704; influenza, 674; and phthisis, 482. The rate of mortality from homicide was 20 per million, and was much less than the Island rate, but, curiously enough, that from suicide was much greater, being as high as 78.

Causes of Death in the Towns.—The principal causes of mortality in the towns in 1921 and their rates per million of the urban population were as follows:—Pneumonia, 4,798; convulsions, 3,213; infantile debility, 2,819; diarrhoea, 2,243; phthisis, 2,198; enteritis, 2,194; dysentery, 2,156; anchylostomiasis, 2,102; malaria and malarial cachexia, 1,967; Bright's disease and nephritis, 1,729; enteric fever, 862; influenza, 753; bronchitis, 725; puerperal septicæmia, 675; and cancer, 237.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest rainfall registered this year was at Carney estate near Ratnapura, which had a total of 223·82 inches, and 249 days on which rain fell. This station also has the highest annual average rainfall (viz., 215·06 inches on 227 days), and in 1921 differed from the majority of stations on the south-west side of the Island in having more rainfall than its average. The lowest rainfall for this year was 30·77 inches in 67 days at Nachchakali near Puttalam. The lowest average is 33·31 in 56 days at a station a little further north, Marichchukkadi, which also recorded the longest period of drought in 1921, viz., 202 days (roughly through the south-west monsoon). The longest wet period occurred at Maliboda and lasted 56 days. The rainfall during the south-west monsoon was distinctly below average, and most stations in the south-western quarter and centre of the Island (which rely on that monsoon for a large proportion of their rainfall) were consequently far below their average for the year, deficits of 30 inches being common. The rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 53·56 inches in 179 days, or about 25 inches below average. At Kandy 73·30 inches were registered in 197 days; while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 70·95 inches in 231 days. In the north the totals for the year were about normal, and in the north-east (e.g., Trincomalee) and eastern parts they were well above average, a result largely due to heavy rain in the last few days of the year.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Mannar with 82·9° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·9° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 81·3° F. and 76·6° F., respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 99·8° F. at Anuradhapura on August 24. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 28·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 25.

The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1921 was 92·6° F. on February 11.

The mean daily range, i.e., the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (17·8° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·0° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·9° F. and 15·5° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, i.e., the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (50·5° F.), and lowest at Galle (17·4° F.).

IX.—ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Mr. Hocart assumed duties as Archæological Commissioner on January 24. After seven years without a head the Department was naturally disorganized, and the first task therefore was to reorganize. This task is not yet completed owing to shortage of staff, and to the necessity for attending immediately to the repairs to the Lankatilaka which had been begun by Mr. Bell.

The library was re-arranged, and a beginning made of a card index.

Records were begun for finds and inscriptions. New squeezes were taken to enable the Epigraphist to go ahead. The foundations of a coin collection were laid for reference.

The work begun by Mr. Bell on the Lankatilaka at Polonnaruwa was completed according to a slightly modified programme. The principles followed were :—

- (1) To put in no work that was not necessary to the safety of the building ;
- (2) To conceal no evidence that could possibly be left exposed.

The frescoes of the Demala Maha Seya were roofed over with cadjans.

Minor repairs were carried out at the Kiri Vehera and Potgul Vehera.

The so-called Dhatu Mandiraya was taken in hand at Anuradhapura, and the brickwork was repointed to prevent wear and tear, and the stones were reset. Unexcavated portions and parts that had become buried again were exposed, so that the plan of the whole monastery is laid bare as far as is possible. It is hoped to proceed to more important work later, but it takes some time to get the staff to work to a system, and from that cause and owing to shortage of staff it has been necessary to begin work before the plan of campaign had been properly worked out.

During the repairs of the Lankatilaka a careful record was made as to any evidence as to the age of the various parts of the building. An old floor was discovered under the present one, doubtless the original floor of the present building. Underneath this were traces of what appears to be the remains of an old building anterior to Parakrama Bahu. The evidence collected was not as decisive as might be wished ; but a comparison with other buildings should gradually clear up the question of dates, and help to establish a satisfactory chronology.

A hasty reconnaissance was carried out in Puttalam on the spot where a clay figure had been found by Mr. Mason of the Railway Construction Department. More pottery of the same kind was found, but no clue as to period or origin. The style is similar to that of certain clay figures in the Museum, and information about these would be welcome.

A rapid survey of Jaffna peninsula, Mantai, the environs of Kurunegala, and the coast between Chilaw and Puttalam was carried out. The ruins of Arankale, near Hiripitiya, North-Western Province, may be especially recommended to notice.

Mr. Ayrton's Memoir on the Ratana Pasada and the ruins on the Outer Circular road is ready for publication, but funds are not available at present.

X.—POLICE, CRIME, AND PRISONS.

POLICE.

Strength.—The strength of the Police Force on December 31, 1921, provided for in the Estimates was :—

			<i>European Police Force.</i>		
Inspector-General ..	..	1	Inspectors ..	..	1
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	..	2	Sub-Inspectors ..	..	3
Superintendents ..	..	11	Sergeants ..	..	13
Assistant Superintendents and Probationers ..	..	24			
Inspectors ..	..	45			
Sub-Inspectors ..	..	119			
Sergeants ..	..	350			
Constables ..	..	2,407			
			Total of all ranks ..		2,994

The total strength of the Force was short by 60 on December 31. The shortage of sergeants and constables was due to lack of accommodation at the Training School. There are a large number of approved applicants on the list awaiting enlistment. The accommodation at the Training School is very limited and overcrowded, but this will be remedied when the new Training School sanctioned is ready.

Cost.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,696,764 approximately. The cost of police per man is Rs. 898·92 per annum. The cost per head of population is 60 cents or 10d.

The cost of police in Ceylon is very low as compared with the cost in other countries, *e.g.* :—

Calcutta, cost per population Rs. 2·71 or about 3s. 8d.

South Australia, cost per population 5s. 9d.

Western Australia, cost per population 9s. 4d.

CRIME.

Crime committed during the Year.—There was a decrease in crime in 1921 as compared with the years 1919 and 1920, as the following statement shows:—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Homicide	200	176	221
Attempted homicide	41	43	43
Grievous hurt	747	770	714
Hurt with dangerous weapons	955	1,009	1,025
Burglary	2,317	2,144	1,908
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	1,325	1,068	1,036
Other offences	2,992	2,979	2,693
Total ..	8,577	8,189	7,640

It will be seen that offences against the person show a slight increase. The total number of cases of homicide and attempted homicide, grievous hurt, and hurt with dangerous weapons in 1921 numbered 2,003, as compared with 1,998 in 1920. There has been a decrease in offences against property, which may be classed as preventible crime. Burglary figures show a decrease, 1,908 in 1921, against 2,144 in 1920. Cases under the head "Theft of cattle and prædial produce" show a decrease, 1,036 in 1921, as compared with 1,068 in 1920. The decrease in preventible crime is a satisfactory feature.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime:—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Uva ..	10 ..	2 ..	22 ..	50 ..	122 ..	96 ..	248 ..	550
Colombo City ..	11 ..	— ..	55 ..	60 ..	73 ..	9 ..	363 ..	571
North-Western ..	33 ..	10 ..	103 ..	97 ..	249 ..	177 ..	392 ..	1,061
Southern ..	43 ..	7 ..	130 ..	263 ..	333 ..	310 ..	326 ..	1,412
Western ..	64 ..	15 ..	235 ..	301 ..	382 ..	275 ..	470 ..	1,742
Sabaragamuwa ..	21 ..	5 ..	64 ..	78 ..	308 ..	69 ..	208 ..	753
Central ..	17 ..	2 ..	57 ..	93 ..	345 ..	65 ..	351 ..	930
North-Central ..	9 ..	1 ..	2 ..	3 ..	21 ..	7 ..	52 ..	95
Northern ..	6 ..	1 ..	33 ..	45 ..	57 ..	15 ..	209 ..	366
Eastern ..	7 ..	— ..	13 ..	35 ..	18 ..	13 ..	74 ..	160
Total ..	221	43	714	1,025	1,908	1,036	2,693	7,640

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

			Persons.
In the Province of Uva there is 1 case of crime to every	..	..	425
In the Colombo City	do.	..	450
In the North-Western Province	do.	..	464
In the Southern Province	do.	..	475
In the Western Province	do.	..	568
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	..	627
In the Central Province	do.	..	772
In the North-Central Province	do.	..	1,016
In the Northern Province	do.	..	1,024
In the Eastern Province	do.	..	1,205

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 589 persons. The proportion of murders to population in Ceylon is 5 per 100,000 population, as against 4 per 100,000 in England and Wales. The number of murders and the proportion to population in Ceylon is very high

There was an increase of crime in the Uva and Southern Provinces (Uva 29 per cent., Southern 4 per cent.). There was a decrease in the Colombo city (19 per cent.), North-Western (5 per cent.), Western (7 per cent.), Sabaragamuwa (14 per cent.), Central (7 per cent.), North-Central (11 per cent.), Northern (34 per cent.), and Eastern (11 per cent.).

The increase in crime in Uva affords a very striking example of the fact that as a Province is opened up the call is for additional police. The extension of the railway brings to the Province criminals from other districts, over whom the village headmen have no control. In 1914 Uva was not regarded as a Province in which serious crime was prevalent; there was less crime per population in Uva than in the Western, Southern, North-Western, Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and Colombo city. Uva stood seventh out of nine in the list of Provinces placed in order of proportion of crime to population. There were only 222 cases of serious crime committed in Uva in 1914, and the proportion of crime to population was 1 to 976. In 1921 Uva heads the list of Provinces placed in order of proportion of serious offences to population, with 1 case of crime to every 425 persons, while the number of true cases of serious crime committed has increased by 109 per cent.

A Superintendent for the Province of Uva and the opening of three new stations have been specially sanctioned to deal with this crime.

The most criminal districts of the Island are :—

The Chilaw District.
The Badulla District.
The Tangalla District.
The Colombo City.
The Matara District.
The Galle District.

The Kalutara District.
The Kurunegala District.
The Colombo District, Western Province.
The Panadure District.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime during the year were :—

- (1) The strength of the Force was increased by 1 Superintendent, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 4 sergeants, and 64 constables for the investigation of crime.
- (2) *Means of Communication.*—Funds were provided for connecting up by telephone more police stations with their headquarters.

The position with regard to the connection of police stations by telephone is now as follows :—

Number of police stations already on the telephone ..	94
Police stations for which funds have been provided to connect by telephone during 1921-22 ..	3
Number of police stations requiring telephone connection for which funds have not been provided ..	52*
	<hr/> 149

* Excluding Mahara and Depôt.

Prompt means of communication is of the greatest assistance in police work, and many cases were recorded during the year in which the arrest of an offender or the tracing of property would not have been possible but for the immediate use of the telegraph or telephone. By getting some stations connected by telephone each year it is hoped that eventually every police station in districts where crime is prevalent will be on the telephone.

Province of Uva.—A Superintendent was posted to the Province of Uva, and the strength of the Force in Uva has been specially increased by 3 Sub-Inspectors and 16 constables.

Ratnapura District.—Additional police stations were established in the Ratnapura District. With the extension of the railway and opening up of the country, bad characters are coming to the district from other parts, and the headmen have not the same control over them as over their own villagers.

Kalutara District.—Special attention was given to the state of crime in the Kalutara District. There has been a marked improvement in both the prevention and detection of crime since special action was started in 1918.

Comparing the number of true cases of serious crime committed in the last four years the figures are :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
True Cases of Serious Crime. ..	695	497	377	283

This shows a 59 per cent. drop in serious crime in 1921 as compared with 1918.

The most marked decrease is noted under the head "Burglary," which comes under the head "Preventible crime." There has been a 72 per cent. drop in burglary since 1918.

The record of detection shows an equally marked improvement :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Percentage of Convictions to total True Cases. ..	30	51	57	61

These figures show that there has been a marked improvement in both the prevention and detection of crime since special action was taken in 1918, and shows that the better record noted in 1920 has not only been kept up, but improved upon in 1921.

The improvement is equally noticeable in other ways. In 1919 there were 60 absconders at large. This number was reduced to 37 in 1920, and has been further reduced to 27 in 1921. 217 gaming places have been raided in the district since 1919.

Kegalla District.—Good results have attended the opening of police stations and the special attention given to the investigation of crime in the Kegalla District. There has been a 30 per cent. decrease in serious crime since 1919, with a better record of detection as the following figures show :—

Year.	True Cases of Serious Crime.	Convictions.	Percentage of Convictions to True Cases.
1919 ..	555	195	35
1920 ..	465	182	39
1921 ..	391	160	41

Training in the Investigation and Prevention of Crime.—Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks in regard to the investigation and prevention of crime.

The Deputy Inspector-General, Criminal Investigation Department, reports as regards crime that a noticeable feature this year in a large number of cases dealt with by the Criminal Investigation Department has been the remarkable ingenuity displayed in the commission or attempted commission of offences of a fraudulent description.

The bulk of crime, certainly of crime against property, is committed by those who have previously been in the hands of the police.

Police sent to Festivals in other Provinces.—Police from other Provinces were sent to Anuradhapura and Madhu to look out for absconders and dangerous characters from their Provinces at the time of the annual festivals.

Close Supervision of Dangerous Characters.—Special attention is being given to the close supervision of really dangerous characters as opposed to the previous general supervision of all so-called “ Habitual Criminals.”

The present definition of a habitual criminal, as a person who has been twice convicted of a crime, is a misleading one from the point of view of the police as well as from other points of view.

A Committee presided over by the Chief Justice has considered the matter and is making certain recommendations to Government, the effect of which are that—

- (a) The word “ Habitual ” will be deleted from the Ordinance No. 32 of 1914, and the word “ Criminal ” only will remain.
- (b) The person who has been twice convicted of a crime will, in the rules framed under the Ordinance, be known and referred to as a “ Reconvicted Criminal,” which is a more proper description.
- (c) The attention of the police will be drawn to the fact that they should not confine supervision to “ Re-convicted Criminals,” but should supervise any person who has been convicted of a crime and shows a definite system or method in committing crime, *e.g.*, the bicycle thief, fowl thief, forger of currency notes, bully, notorious procurer, &c.

The police will, if this is brought into force, refer to the twice convicted, or more frequently convicted, person as a “ Re-convicted Criminal.”

Beside the re-convicted criminal, there will be another class of persons who require to be specially watched by the police. These will be persons who may have only one conviction. The reason for the police specially watching them will not be the number of convictions registered against them, but the fact that they show system and method in committing crime and have a distinctly criminal mind.

This further class will be called “ Dangerous Characters.”

The worst criminals of both these classes will be regarded as dangerous criminals, and these should be photographed and receive supervision above the ordinary.

The good effect of the special supervision of the more dangerous criminals and taking photographs of them can be judged by the greatly improved state of crime in the Kalutara District, where this system is in force.

There is no doubt that if in each police station area the four or five most dangerous criminals are marked down and properly supervised a very good check on crime is obtained. It is not a case of trying to shadow and keep in close touch with 1,000 or even a 100 dangerous criminals in each station area; the number of really dangerous criminals in each station area will be found to be small, and it is these dangerous criminals that the police will specially watch.

Examination of Bioscope Films.—Special attention has been given to the examination of bioscope films. Apart from the need for censorship of films which are indecent, suggestive, or improper, and films which are apt to cause feelings of ill-will or hostility between different classes, there is no doubt the films which depict the commission of crime do harm.

Co-operation of Headmen with Police.—In all Provinces headmen have co-operated very heartily with the police, and improved relations between headmen and police is bound to have effect.

A good understanding and a sound system of co-operation between headmen and police is the most important point in Police Provincial Administration. In districts where there are police stations the headmen have patrolled regularly by night with the police, and in some cases organized their own patrols.

In many districts the police have attended the Chief Headmen's monthly division days, so that the headmen can be kept instructed and informed of the lines the police are working on, and of any new orders or points which have come to light affecting the work of the district.

Co-operation by Railway Staff and by the Public.—The railway staff have been particularly helpful in bringing to notice and detecting persons committing theft from passengers on the railway, and sixteen cases have been brought to the notice of the General Manager in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the railway had resulted in the detection of crime. The officers were in each case rewarded.

Prevention of Crime.—The attention of the police is being specially directed to the prevention of crime on the lines above mentioned. By co-operating with the headmen and the public and securing their help and interest; by knowing the worst characters, and knowing the method and system by which each criminal commits crime; by constant patrolling, raiding gaming places, and police keeping on the move as much as possible in each station area, crime can be prevented, and this has been the subject of special training.

FURTHER ACTION NECESSARY TO DEAL WITH CRIME.

Dealing with Youthful Offenders.—It has been mentioned in previous reports that one of the greatest needs of the Colony is the treatment of youthful offenders on sound practical lines in order to prevent a youth becoming a habitual criminal. Ceylon offers an exceptional field for work such as this to be started. The volume of crime is very heavy.

The record of criminals in Ceylon shows that a very large proportion of the habitual criminals come from the towns, and their history almost invariably starts with petty thefts in the streets committed at the age of 15 to 21.

The object of a sound police and prison system is to prevent, so far as possible, a person from becoming a habitual criminal. Nothing can be done with a hardened criminal; it is useless teaching him a trade, for on release from prison he will, from sheer force of habit, in almost every case return to his former state and live on the proceeds of crime committed.

The Borstal system aims at the permanent reformation of the youth, who has committed his first offence, by hard work of an industrial character in clean and healthy surroundings for a period of three years, if possible, and not less than two years. A youth after being two or three years in such an institution is far more likely to settle down to a trade than the youth who has served a short sentence in a jail and returns to the streets. A youth who returns to the streets can never be reformed; the petty thief in course of time becomes the house-breaker. The great point aimed at is to teach a youth a trade and accustom him to regular and hard work. A hardworking man in a trade is seldom found amongst criminals. By the Borstal method the youth is prevented from becoming a habitual criminal.

Being a port of call, the streets of Colombo are infested with boys who plague and molest passengers. Such boys are continually being prosecuted. They are fined small amounts or given cuts with a cane and return to the streets. Living such a life a boy cannot but become a criminal. It is just this type of boy who might be turned into a decent man in a Borstal institution.

A Committee appointed by Government to consider the need of a Borstal institution in Ceylon, under the Presidentship of the Chief Justice, has reported that a Borstal institution is very necessary. A capital site in the country at Urugasmanhandiya has been suggested, where the boys can be employed both in trade and agriculture and gardening, and all that is required is the provision of funds.

DUTIES RESULTING FROM THE WAR.

Duties of the Police.—In addition to the ordinary work of the police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, have been continued throughout 1921. Of these, the most important are :—

- (1) Enforcement of regulation that no person may embark on any ship in the harbour unless he is in possession of a passport and steamer ticket or holds a special permit from the Chairman, Plague Committee, to do so. This regulation necessitates the Harbour Police checking all persons attempting to board a vessel.
- (2) Examining and stamping on board ship the passports of all steamer passengers who wish to land at Colombo.
- (3) Registering and supervising all Indians arriving by steamer *en route* to India *via* Talaimannar.
- (4) Registering and supervising all alien commercial travellers and missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *via* Talaimannar.
- (5) The general surveillance of all other aliens arriving in the Colony and of all aliens resident in the Colony.
- (6) Correspondence with India, South Africa, and all Eastern Colonies regarding suspicious aliens, anti-British persons, &c.

LEGISLATION DEALING WITH THE REGULATION OF TRAFFIC.

Motor Vehicles.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants for and the issue of licenses to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police.

Other Legislation affecting the Police.—Other legislation affecting the police and introduced during the year include :—

- “ The Dangerous Animals Ordinance, No. 38 of 1921,” which provides for the destruction of an animal which has been and is likely to be dangerous to life and property. This does not affect the right of every individual to destroy an animal when it is actually threatening life and damage to property, but provides for the destruction of an animal that has been proved to be dangerous, though possibly not endangering life at the time the matter is under consideration.

TRAINING.

General.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime.

In addition to the weekly issue to all stations of orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, and regulations, in which all ranks are instructed and questioned, notes and hints on incidents and cases which have actually occurred are published for general information and guidance.

Men are also instructed in matters which effect their particular district or branch of work.

The Constable's Manual, which, in the form of question and answer, instructs constables in the proper action to be taken under varying circumstances in all branches of police work, have been revised, and copies in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil issued.

Training in Musketry.—With a view to improving the standard of musketry in the Force, special courses have been held periodically at headquarters for training instructors. The system of training is based on the Army system, but is confined to what is applicable and essential for work required of the police.

A system of training in revolver shooting has been introduced, and classes of instruction for Officers, Inspectors, European Police Sergeants, and Sub-Inspectors were held during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Discipline.—Many acts of bravery and prompt action displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning were reported during the year.

Imperial Service Medal.—Police Constable Zain Amath of the Colombo Division and Police Constable Shaik Usuff of the Central Province were awarded the Imperial Service Medal by His Majesty the King for long, good, and meritorious service.

First Aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is required to hold a First-aid Certificate. No constable is promoted to the rank of sergeant until he has obtained a First-aid Certificate. A certain number of intelligent constables hold First-aid Certificates; the remainder are trained to act under a Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer holding a First-aid Certificate, of whom there will always be at least one in every police station in the Island. A sergeant or constable on receiving a service badge after three years' efficient service is awarded a special grant of Rs. 10 per annum, which he continues to draw so long as he remains efficient. On his being awarded a medal after fifteen years' efficient service, a grant to him of Rs. 2' 50 per mensem has been sanctioned by Government.

At stations in the sea coast all ranks are specially instructed and kept up to the mark in rendering first-aid and artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning.

In the course of the year many cases were recorded and reported by Medical Officers in which life was saved as a result of first-aid rendered by the police.

A new pattern stretcher and a first-aid box and hamper containing all necessary first-aid materials have been supplied to every police station in the Island.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards.

The object of the Pensioners' Corps is to assist police pensioners to supplement their pension by obtaining posts as watchers, doorkeepers, &c., on retirement, and to assist the public by providing men of a reliable type and long service in Government for posts which require a steady and reliable man. The pensioners are given a uniform by Government, and the pay they receive in private employ is of great assistance to them. These men have a pension

to lose if they commit an offence of dishonesty, and this fact and their long service and training in the Force makes their services valuable to the private employer.

Pensioners of the Corps not in private employ are called out to assist the police at times of outbreak of plague, cholera, &c., when they are particularly useful in guarding and watching houses and contacts. When so called out they are paid for the number of days so employed. There are 155 pensioners in the Corps.

The object of the Boys' Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled in squad drill, physical exercises, and boxing. In school the boy is taught reading, writing, and general knowledge, which will fit him for employment. On parades, in boxing, and games he is taught discipline, kept hard and fit, taught to keep his temper, and learns to keep himself and his uniform clean. Between the ages of 14 and 17 he continues to attend school and parade for half the day, and during the other half he attends a police office as a messenger, working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid from Rs. 7.50 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 15 a month at the age of 17. At this stage the boy learns regular and punctual attendance for duty, good manners, and activity, and the importance of steady work if he is to get on in the world. At the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are 73 senior and 382 junior boys in the Brigade.

Seven boys of the Brigade were enlisted in the Force during the year, and there are now 56 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, three of whom have already been promoted to the rank of sergeant. This shows that the training and discipline of the Boys' Brigade is of value to the boy on enlistment, and of value to the Force and to the Government in making a well-disciplined and efficient policeman.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have continued to render good service, not only in being available in time of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of any disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but also to the owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally. In a large and scattered district it is not possible for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or Superintendent of Police to get to the scene in time to prevent trouble in the great majority of cases.

Many Justices of the Peace have been mentioned as having rendered good service, and from the police point of view their interest in the Force and the men in their district is very much appreciated.

General steps taken towards the Improvement of the Force in 1921.—(a) *Dispensaries in Colombo stations* opened in 1920 proved a great success. The regular daily visit by the Assistant Medical Officer securing prompt treatment at an early stage, thereby saving time and duty previously lost in a man walking to the Police Hospital and being incapacitated for a number of days as a result of not getting treatment at an early stage.

(b) *Venereal Disease, New Order by Government.*—Regulations regarding the grant of leave to men reporting sick from venereal disease have been amended. Such men are now treated in the same way as men reporting sick of any other disease, and granted leave on full-pay against full-pay leave to which a man is entitled.

(c) Funds have been voted for making a start in the matter of proper dental treatment for police.

(d) Funds have been earmarked out of Loan Funds for starting the new Training School for recruits next to the Police Recreation Ground at Bambalapitiya.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 2,001 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1921, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 347, as against 410 in 1920. The figures are as follows :—

1920	..	14,429		1921	..	12,428
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The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 63, as against 50 in 1920. There were 49 executions during the year, as against 40 in 1920. Of the 49 whose capital sentences were carried out, 42 were Sinhalese and 7 Tamils. Of the number executed, 3 had been sentenced in 1920, and of the number sentenced to death, 2 were executed in 1922. There were 3 escapes and 3 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 233, as against 213 in 1920, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 11·40, as against 9·30 in 1920 and 14·08 in 1919. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,715, as against 2,481 in 1920 and 2,057 in 1919. There were 30 cases of corporal punishments, as against 47 in 1920.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra Jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith's work, boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and mason works.

During the year 1,697 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. Owing to the increased demand for furniture, brooms, mats, tats, door rugs, and other articles, the industrial working parties at Bogambra Jail have been largely increased. Machinery for cutting, planing, &c., of timber was received from England during the year, and is now in use. The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 234 prisoners from Welikada Jail. This jail also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as the Lunatic Asylum; 774,508 pieces being dealt with during the year. 10,713 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 41,957 yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments. 5,224 cubes of hand rubble, 5,377 cubes of 2-inch metal, 1,187 cubes pitching stones, 71 cubes $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch metal, 749 cubes $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch metal, and 40 stone setts were despatched to Colombo Harbour Works. 9,585 cubes hand rubble, 1,244 cubes of 2-inch metal, 34,184 stone setts, 183 cubes pitching stones, 9,585 cubes hand rubble, and 570 cubes quarry scrapings were stocked in the quarry, while the Public Works Department were supplied with 6,828 cubes of 2-inch metal, 386 cubes of hand rubble, and 28 ashlar stones, at a total estimated value of Rs. 201,944·25.

The Karaiyur reclamation at Jaffna continues to make good progress.

Metal continues to be supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, Chilaw, and Badulla prisons.

. A tract of land about 10 acres in extent adjoining Welikada Jail was planted with various kinds of vegetables by prison labour, and the amount credited to revenue by sale of its produce during the year was Rs. 2,561·17.

Further accommodation was provided at Anuradhapura Jail for 100 prisoners, who are engaged in preparing ground, &c., for the Agricultural Department at the Experimental Station.

The daily average attendance at the schools opened in August, 1917, was 147 during the year.

XI.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

On December 31, 1921, 566 offices were open for transaction of postal business. Of these, 171 were offices dealing with all classes of postal work, mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, savings bank work, money order and postal order work, and telegraph work ; at 29 all classes of postal business were transacted, except telegraph work ; at 6 sub-offices mail, parcel, registration, and postal order work only was transacted ; while at 317 village receiving offices mail work only was conducted ; there were also 43 railway receiving offices.

There were additions of 3 telegraph offices, 3 post offices, 6 sub-offices, and 14 village receiving offices during the year.

MAIL SERVICES.

Foreign.—A regular weekly mail service was maintained during 1921 between the United Kingdom and Ceylon. In all 56 letter mails were received from London, of which 39 were carried by vessels of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company. Of these, 22 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo, the remaining 17 arriving by sea. Seventeen mails arrived by vessels of the Orient line, 12 by the regular monthly London to Australia vessels, and 5 by intermediate ones.

6,426 bags of correspondence and 4,015 bags of parcels were received from London in 1921.

In the reverse direction 77 mails were despatched to London by vessels of the P. & O. (50 mails), Orient (14), Messageries Maritimes (12), and Bibby (1) lines.

There was an improvement in the average time occupied in transit, which was generally 18 to 19 days.

A regular monthly service to Australian ports was maintained both by the P. & O. and the Orient lines.

Fairly regular and frequent services to the Straits and the Far East were available by vessels of the British India, Messageries Maritimes, and Japanese lines.

The B. I. steamers carried mails between Ceylon and Mauritius, and the Indian and African lines between Ceylon and South Africa at irregular intervals.

The vessels of the Pacific Mail line were used for carrying direct mails to Manila and San Francisco, and those of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha line for direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

Inland Mails.—Inland mails were carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from the railway stations either by Government or contract motor mail services, or by contract horse or bullock coach, or by runner services.

The most important improvements in 1921 were the substitution of motor coach services between Haputale and Moneragalla (47 miles) and Opanake and Balangoda (8½ miles) for the previous runner services, and the substitution of a motor coach service for the bullock coach service between Mankulam and Mullaittivu (30 miles).

The longest motor coach services are between Demodera and Batticaloa (111 miles), Anuradhapura and Trincomalee (67 miles), both performed by the Ceylon Government Railway, Matara and Hambantota (52 miles), Matara and Deniyaya (37 miles), and Chilaw and Puttalam (32 miles), undertaken by private contractors.

Hackery services replaced runner services between Galle and Baddegama, and between the stations and post offices at Kurunegala and Ratnapura.

The mail services, generally speaking, worked satisfactorily. Owing to floods and washaways on the railway the Ceylon-Indian service was interrupted for short periods in January and December, and the Batticaloa and Trincomalee services also suffered from floods for a few days at the end of the year.

POSTAGE RATES.

The rates of foreign postage were revised under the provisions of the Madrid Convention, and 20 cents was adopted as the initial rate for 1 oz. or under, and 10 cents per additional oz., on letters to foreign countries; for places within the British Empire a preferential initial rate of 12 cents (which may be considered equivalent to 2*d.*) was adopted.

The post card rate was fixed at 12 cents to foreign and 10 cents to British countries.

On printed matters a rate of 4 cents per 2 oz. was adopted, with minima of 8 cents on samples and 10 cents on business papers.

The foreign registration fee was raised from 15 to 20 cents.

The rates on foreign parcels had to be altered in accordance with increased credits required by administrations to make the service self-supporting, and the ultimate rates are now roughly double the pre-war rates; the scale to England being, up to 3 lb. Re. 1·50, up to 7 lb. Re. 2·75, and up to 11 lb. Rs. 4.

The inland postage rates and the rates to India remained unchanged.

The telegraph rates, 40 cents for the first ten words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional two words (inland), Re. 1 ordinary (Rs. 2 for urgent) first twelve words, and 10 cents and 15 cents, respectively, for each additional word to India, remain unchanged. The cable rate to the United Kingdom continued to be Re. 1·25 per word ordinary, and 65 cents per word deferred.

MAIL STATISTICS.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1921 is estimated at nearly 54 millions, as against 49 millions in 1920. The increase was practically wholly in inland correspondence, which totalled 42½ millions (letters 30, post cards 5½, printed matter and samples, &c., 7½ millions).

The total number of parcels dealt with was 831,577, an increase of 35,541 over the 1920 total. Inland and Indian "ordinary" accounted for over half the total (439,763), and Inland and Indian value-payable 307,205.

25,785 parcels were despatched to and 37,938 received from the United Kingdom. Of the latter, 2,754 were sent under the Cash on Delivery system.

MONEY AND POSTAL ORDERS.

The total value of foreign money orders issued in Ceylon was Rs. 8,736,450. The bulk—value Rs. 8,590,794—consisted of remittances to India, principally from immigrant coolies; this total being about the same as in 1920. Orders on other countries, especially to the United Kingdom, showed a falling off, owing to trade conditions, the less favourable rates of exchange ruling than in 1920, and the use of the Cash on Delivery system instead of sending money orders with orders for goods.

There was an increase in the total of foreign orders paid in the Colony from Rs. 2,268,228 to Rs. 2,817,413. The orders from India, valued at Rs. 1,215,841, showed a falling off of Rs. 174,837; while there was a large increase in orders from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States (the value of which was abnormally low in 1920) from Rs. 550,551 to Rs. 1,379,016; orders from the United Kingdom totalled Rs. 94,952, as against Rs. 56,575 in 1920.

The value of local postal orders issued was Rs. 573,746, as compared with Rs. 535,116 in 1920. There was a considerable reduction both in issues and payments of British postal orders, probably owing to exchange fluctuations and the use of money orders in their place by remitters from the Federated Malay States. 9,949 British postal orders valued at £5,333 were issued, and 9,316 valued at £7,339 paid.

The telegraphic money order system already in force between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and India was extended to the Federated Malay States.

There was some falling off in the inland money order business. 619,642 orders were issued for a total of Rs. 24,188,154; Rs. 604,849 less than in 1920.

The revenue from money order commission amounted to Rs. 356,333.

THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

The business of the bank (transacted at 199 offices) continued to expand during 1921, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 3,688,409, exceeding the withdrawals during the year by Rs. 567,101·25. On December 31 the total to the credit of 136,636 depositors was Rs. 4,867,039.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·40 per cent. to 2 cents per month for each completed Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposit up to a nett maximum of Rs. 7·50 per annum, and an interest-bearing total of Rs. 3,000. Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

THE TELEGRAPH SYSTEM.

All the important towns in the Island are served by Government telegraph system. 171 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1921, besides several railway telegraph offices. Three new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are two telegraph circuits working between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West and East by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company *via* Aden and Penang, respectively.

A Government wireless station at Colombo of 5-kilowatt power has a normal daylight range of about 400 miles, and is open to traffic of all kinds.

The total number of telegrams handled during 1921 was roughly the same as in 1920, and amounted to a little under $1\frac{1}{2}$ million messages. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 14 minutes.

The total number of telegrams despatched to India (152,958) showed an increase of 31,642, but the number received from India (139,142) showed a falling off of 6,570 compared with the 1920 figures.

87,790 private messages were despatched to and 80,178 messages received from "other countries."

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 6,938 messages during the year, an increase of 678 over 1920.

The revenue from telegrams was Rs. 751,543.

THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

Generally speaking, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges and rural areas by private licensed exchanges, linked together by Government trunk and junction lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo. There were 1,930 subscribers to this at the end of 1921, an increase of 253 over the previous year; and owing to the difficulty in obtaining plant there were 338 applicants awaiting connection at the end of the year. The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (142 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (117), Galle (78), Kurunegala (48), Negombo (45), and Kalutara (34).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service. Subscriptions were raised in the large towns during the year to Rs. 120 and Rs. 180 per annum, respectively, for the initial rate (covering premises within 2 miles of the exchange) for private and business, premises, respectively.

At the Colombo exchange the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that $11\frac{1}{2}$ million calls were dealt with in 1921, as compared with 10 millions in 1920. The average speed of answer during the day was 6.5 seconds, and 88.3 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

The estimated number of trunk and junction calls was 221,520, nearly 10 per cent. more than in 1920. The trunk fees are fixed on a 1-cent-per-mile basis.

Telephonic receipts amounted to Rs. 453,135 in 1921.

The principal trunk telephone lines are:—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ..	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya ..	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle ..	71
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura ..	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala ..	59
(6) Colombo-Negombo ..	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale ..	21

The extension of the trunk line from Avissawella to Ratnapura was completed during 1921; also that from Pussellawa to Nuwara Eliya and a junction line from Matale to Lochnagar.

The Government telephone system at the end of 1921 comprised 2,616 miles of overhead wire and 10,470 miles of underground wire; and the total wire mileage of the telegraph system rose to 7,815.

The revenue in 1921 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 4,320,000, an increase of about Rs. 370,000, principally upon postage. The expenditure was Rs. 3,529,000. These figures do not include either invisible revenue in the shape of work done free for other Government Departments or invisible expenditure in the shape of work done free for the Post Office by other Government Departments, *e.g.*, the Railway, and Post Office charges not debited to the Post Office vote, *e.g.*, temporary increases of salary.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 13,235,221 in 1921, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 460,166 over 1920. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-six years has been Rs. 6,800,869.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,086 miles, of which 3,848 miles are cart roads and 238 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Science block, University College; new Government dairy at Narahenpita; new Royal College, Colombo; magazine for storage of detonators at Welikada; alterations to Council Chamber, Colombo; offices and store for Telegraph and Telephone Engineering Staff, Kandy; works for Agricultural Department, Peradeniya, comprising Entomological Laboratory, quarters for three Research Officers, quarters for three clerks, water supply, &c.; powder magazine at Nalanda; extension of and improvements to the Agricultural School, Peradeniya; quarters for Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, Nuwara Eliya; Post Office at Kotmale; quarters for clerks, Nuwara Eliya; improvements to Public Works Department clerks' and overseers' quarters, Nuwara Eliya; clerks' quarters at Hambantota; new Customs buildings at Talaimannar; Government Technical Schools, Jaffna; Experimental Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna; repairs to bungalow for Divisional Irrigation Engineer, Batticaloa; building a paddy store at Vakaneri; quarters for the conductor and permanent cooly lines at Experimental Station, Anuradhapura; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura; new bungalow for the District Judge, Chilaw; clerks' quarters, Diyatalawa; Forest Ranger's quarters at Lunugala; additions and improvements to Survey Camp, Diyatalawa; quarters at Bandarawela for police constables; improvements to Bandarawela water supply; quarters for the District Engineer, Pelmadulla; powder magazines at Ratnapura, Pelmadulla, and Avissawella; Forest Ranger's quarters, Rakwana; extensions to court-house, Ratnapura.

Medical Buildings.—New lunatic asylum, Angoda; new chapel for Religious Sisters, General Hospital, Colombo; dispensary and quarters for apothecary, Kalatuwana; additions to the tuberculosis hospital at Ragama and the Kandana sanatorium; new infectious diseases hospital, Colombo; dispensary at Elkaduwa; additions to Kandy hospital, Deltota hospital, and Matale hospital; apothecary's quarters, Mulhalkele hospital; additions to Ramboda hospital; additions and improvements to Nawalapitiya hospital and Uda Pussellawa hospital; hospital for Udugama; hospital at Elpitiya; quarters for apothecary, Balapitiya hospital; additions to Deniyaya hospital; dispensary and quarters for apothecary, Elephant Pass, quarters for attendants, Mantota hospital; dispensary at Punakari; hospital at Kilinochchi; Lepor Asylum, Batticaloa; additions to Batticaloa hospital and Kalmunai hospital; apothecary's quarters at Ratmale, Nachchaduwa; Ridigama hospital; additions to Puttalam hospital; hospital at Madulsima; quarters for second apothecary, Moneragala hospital; infectious diseases hospital, Koslanda; quarters for steward, Aranayaka hospital; additions to Rakwana hospital, Eheliyagoda hospital, and Kahawatta hospital; dispensary at Kaltota.

Police Buildings.—Police Training School, Bambalapitiya; police barracks at the Royal College site; additions and improvements to Kandy police station; police station and barracks, Ginigathena.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project; construction of the quarantine camp at Mandapam, South India; Karaiyur reclamation, Jaffna; Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa; Gampola bridge; Kaluganga

bridge; reconstructing Badalgama bridge, Negombo-Giriulla road; reconstruction of the Hulu-ganga bridge; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Galle District; rebuilding bridge, Galle-Akuressa road; widening bridge over Kepu-ela, Galle; Tripichang-oya bridge, Kurunegala-Puttalam road; coast protection works, Colombo-Galle road; improvements to Nawalapitiya town.

Investigations have been continued in connection with the production of hydro-electric power for general and industrial purposes, and a scheme for the utilization of the upper waters of the Kelani-ganga has been designed for an ultimate development of 105,000 kilowatts in four stages, the first stage being for 22,500 kilowatts, at a capital cost of Rs. 375 per kilowatt at the power station.

IRRIGATION.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1920-21 was Rs. 1,077,690.59.

The schemes under construction were: Karachchi (irrigation works and agricultural roads), Kanukkeni tank, Kirindi-oya (right bank), Unnichechai (distribution channels and agricultural roads), Tabbowa, Nachchaduwa (distribution channels and agricultural road), Kalawewa (channels), Minneri (restoration of main channels).

The work on the Minneri channels was stopped during the year, as the Minneri Development Company terminated their operations at the farm.

Very heavy floods occurred in January at irrigation works in the Eastern and North-Central Provinces: at Giritale tank the flood rose to a height of 8 feet 9 inches above the level of the spill.

Surveys and investigations were made in connection with the following schemes:—Bolgoda lake, Colombo flood protection scheme, Walawe (left bank), flood schemes, Matara District, Karachchi, Kanukkeni, Iratperiya-kulam, Giant's tank, Unnichechai, Tabbowa, Minneri, Kalawewa, and Nachchaduwa. Gaugings and other observations were taken at Bolgoda lake, Mahaweli-ganga, Polwatta-ganga, Vadamarachchi lagoon, Elephant Pass, and Virgil-aru.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, and under these works about 144,000 acres are irrigated for paddy. In order to encourage the cultivation of foodstuffs, these lands will pay no irrigation rates until 1925 if cultivated for paddy or other foodstuffs. In addition to the Crown works, there are approximately 5,200 village tanks and elas (small channels) in operation, with an approximate area of 190,000 acres of land cultivated for paddy. About 1,679 village works are under restoration by the villagers. Approximately 20,000 acres of undeveloped irrigable land suitable for paddy cultivation is available under the existing Crown irrigation works.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised 65,856 acres of block surveys, 2,350 acres of irrigation surveys, and 1,863 acres of town surveys.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 89, containing 4,260 lots, covering an area of 43,686 acres. One irrigation survey plan, containing 325 lots, covering an area of 3,700 acres, was issued.

New town survey plans for the whole of Ella, Talawakele, Nawalapitiya, Galle, with the southern half of Colombo city and portions of Trincomalee and Matara, were issued.

Final village plans to the number of 153 were issued.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,348,642 acres, topographical surveys 1,093,380 acres, forest reserve surveys 587,276 acres, irrigation surveys 38,765 acres, and town surveys 13,625 acres, making a total of 4,081,688 acres.

Final Village Plans.—153 final village plans for 217,161 acres in 5,631 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,477,277 acres, contained in 49,569 lots on 2,611 plans.

Preliminary Plans.—1,205 preliminary plans for 22,767 acres in 7,157 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary Surveys in Final Village Plans and existing Preliminary Plans.—677 supplementary surveys, consisting of 2,899 lots, covering 15,626 acres, were made and inserted on already issued final village plans and preliminary plans.

Applications.—1,412 applications, covering 7,384 acres, were surveyed under Government Circular No. 36 of April 15, 1920, by which the Government allows an applicant for irrigable Crown land for the cultivation of paddy to take immediate possession of the land free of rent for a period of three years. After the expiration of this period, the sale or lease of the land to the cultivator is to be considered. In the event of sale, the sale price may be paid, if desired, in yearly instalments over a period of not more than ten years. The object of this is to increase the production of rice in the Island.

Nature of Applications.—1,161 applications, covering 3,650 acres, were surveyed for paddy; 31 applications, covering 1,316 acres, for tea; 119 applications, covering 1,277 acres, for rubber; 5 applications, covering 435 acres, for tea and rubber; 360 applications, covering 1,476 acres, for coconuts; 20 applications, covering 198 acres, for rubber and coconuts; 817 applications, covering 3,575 acres, for native cultivation; and 523 applications, covering 825 acres, for building purposes.

Acquisition Surveys.—Many surveys were carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, such as the proposed quarters for Colombo Government clerks at Ganemulla, and in connection with salterns for the improved production of salt in the Southern and North-Western Provinces. In addition to the above, the acquisition surveys for the new Maho-Batticaloa and Trincomalee Railway were pushed on with.

Acquisition preliminary plans to the number of 222 for 673 acres in 1,899 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Line.

The length of the line opened for traffic on September 30 was 831½ miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 20,743,281, as against Rs. 21,122,104 in 1920, or a decrease of Rs. 378,823.

The number of passengers conveyed was 11,262,657, or an increase of 866,653 as compared with the previous year.

Season ticket and parcels traffic have increased to the extent of 15,756 and 124,428, respectively, in number. Foreign cooly traffic showed a decrease of 27,390.

The total tonnage of goods carried was 997,548, or a decrease of 170,467 as compared with the previous year. The following are the principal decreases and increases :—

Decrease.	Tons.	Increase.	Tons.
Rubber	5,160	Rice	7,631
Tea	23,327	Coconut produce	19,787
Fruit and vegetable	3,631	Foreign goods	8,994
Tea and rubber packing	4,976		
Plumbago	1,567		
Liquid fuel	4,167		
Manure	129,422		
Other goods	50,664		

The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 14,521,077, or Rs. 80,151 less than the comparative figures of the previous year.

The capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation and improvements, to September 30, 1921, was Rs. 149,224,077, as compared with Rs. 144,026,601 in 1920.

Colombo Stations Extensions.—This large work is now approaching completion. It consists of :—

- (a) New loco yard, Dematagoda (completed).
- (b) New Railway stores and stores yard (completed).
- (c) The construction of a new up-to-date passenger station at the Fort, replacing the old Fort and Pettah stations (three-fourths finished).
- (d) The erection of three large goods sheds, broad gauge, two narrow gauge sheds, plumbago sheds, &c., and yards connected therewith at Maradana, and the complete remodelling of Colombo goods yard (seven-eighths finished).
- (e) The duplication of the Railway between Dematagoda and Slave Island, and the extension of the narrow gauge to the new Fort station (completed).
- (f) Overbridge and approaches, Parson's road (completed).
- (g) The rebuilding of Maradana station (finished).
- (h) The reclamation of over 80 acres of swamp and lake, and the construction of two large lake basins (finished).
- (i) The construction of a goods sorting yard at Weragoda.

During the year work has been confined to the construction of the arrival platform at the Fort station, and to the remodelling of the Colombo goods yard. A start has been made on the sorting yard at Weragoda.

The new arrival platform is 1,200 feet long, 70 feet in width, with a 30-foot carriage drive in the centre, having an entrance and exit from the new McCallum road. The platform is roofed for 400 feet. It is hoped that this work will be completed and opened for traffic about the middle of 1922.

"Track circuiting" is being installed in this station.

During the year a transfer shed and sidings connected thereto for transferring goods from the broad gauge to the narrow gauge and *vice versa* has been opened for traffic.

Four new sorting sidings have been constructed in Captain's garden.

The new "West Signal Cabin" at the Fort station has been constructed.

The vote allowed for the year is Rs. 508,305, the estimate for the whole work is Rs. 9,535,323, out of which Rs. 8,682,513 has been expended to the end of the year.

Badulla Railway Extension.—This line is an extension of the Main line north of Bandarawela to Badulla. The line traverses hilly and very rough country, necessitating several high viaducts and the construction of six tunnels. Bandarawela is 4,013 feet above mean sea level, and Badulla 2,226 feet. It is necessary to adopt the steep gradient of 1 in 44 for the greater part of the distance. The length of the line is 21.08 miles. It has been found necessary in four cases to utilize curves of 5 chains in radius. The line is a standard gauge 5 feet 6 inches, the rails utilized being 88 lb. to the yard. All curves under 7 chains are checked, the check rails weighing 71 lb. per lineal yard.

The work was started in November, 1913, near Bandarawela. During the war, funds for the construction of the line were limited, and this, together with the difficulty in obtaining materials, accounts for the whole line not yet being opened.

The portion of the Railway between Bandarawela and Ella was opened for traffic in July, 1918. This section is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length. A further section of Railway up to Demodera, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length (or $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Bandarawela), was opened for traffic on March 21, 1921.

Between Demodera and Badulla work is in a forward state. All masonry in viaducts and bridges, with the exception of one pier of the "Rossett viaduct," is completed. Retaining walls are approaching completion, and the earthwork being pushed forward as fast as possible.

The Badulla Terminus is half completed. A large engine shed is now in the course of erection.

The line passes through valuable estates, mostly tea, and when completed will serve the large tea districts of Badulla, Passara, and Lunugala.

The total estimated cost of construction of this heavy work is Rs. 9,261,223, and the expenditure to date is Rs. 9,182,697. The work is now being completed out of loan funds.

Main Line Duplication.—This work includes the duplication of the Main line north of Ragama station to Rambukkana. A total length of 43 miles 24 chains. It also includes improvements to the gradients of the Main line of all gradients steeper than 1 in 132, and the construction of new up-to-date stations at Mirigama and Ambepussa, and a very large new station and yard at Rambukkana, with improvements to Alawwa and Polgahawela stations. Up to the middle of last year the work was seriously held up owing to lack of funds. This construction is, however, now being placed on loan funds, and the progress is greatly improved. All sub-grade works are completed between Ragama and Veyangoda, and nearly completed up to Mirigama. Rails have been indented for up to Polgahawela, and the first consignment is expected in the Island shortly. All steelwork for the superstructure of the bridges and culverts has been indented for. Masonry work is completed or nearly so up to the 36th milepost. The construction of the new bridge carrying the duplicated line over the Maha-oya is nearly finished. Good progress is now being made in the construction of the duplicate tunnel at Mirigama, pneumatic drilling plant being installed there.

The new stations at Mirigama and Ambepussa are in hand.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 8,360,824, out of which Rs. 3,421,346 has been spent to date. The yearly vote is Rs. 1,890,122.

Puttalam Railway Extension.—This is an extension of the Chilaw line northward to Puttalam, a total length of 32 miles 69 chains, and the work was commenced in November, 1920. The line is standard gauge, 80-lb. rails being used and angle fish plate, six bolts to each pair of fish plates.

The line passes through very rich coconut lands, and serves the large salt industry of Puttalam. The steepest gradient on the line is 1 in 198. All stations will be fully signalled and interlocked.

The line necessitates heavy bridging for the first 12 miles of its length, including a bridge over the Deduru-oya, 4 miles north of Chilaw, of No. 5 spans of 150 feet.

A temporary timber bridge over this river has been constructed to permit of laying permanent way north, and the rails have now reached a point $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Chilaw. When a further consignment of rails arrive, which is now expected, rail head will be pushed further at once.

Intermediate stations are being provided at Bangadeniya, Battuluoya, Mundel, Madurankuli, and Palavi.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 8,428,834, out of which Rs. 1,266,007 have been spent to date. The yearly vote is Rs. 2,146,215.

All bridges and culverts up to $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles are completed or approaching completion, except the large bridge over the Deduru-oya, which has been started, the work at present awaiting further consignments of cylinder segments, which are now coming from home.

Connected with this work a branch line has been surveyed to a proposed Public Works Department quarry at Kalladi near Palavi. This line is approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. The opening of this quarry and the construction

of the branch line is at present under consideration by Government. Stone is exceedingly scarce in the Puttalam District, large sums at present being expended in its supply.

Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.—These lines combined are approximately 182½ miles in length. They are built to the standard 5 ft. 6 in. gauge, 46½ lb. per yard rails being used. During 1921 the survey of the full line was completed. Construction was started late in 1920, but no marked progress was made till May, 1921. Rail head is now at 32 miles from Maho, the junction with the main line (86½ miles north of Colombo on the Northern Railway). The country through which the lines pass is varied, heavy work being met with in the vicinity of Maho and Habarana. Three large rivers have to be bridged, viz., the Kala-oya, Mahaweli-ganga, and the Valaichchenai estuary, but otherwise the work of bridging, &c., is light. The railway is constructed with fairly heavy gradients where the line crosses ridges of hills, the steepest being 1 in 60. No curves occur under 20 chains in radius. More than half the clearing for the line is now completed, and the earthworks in hand for about 80 miles. All bridges and culverts are completed for 20 miles, and those are in hand between 20 miles and 30 miles, as well as some culverts and bridges in the Trincomalee District and a flood outlet bridge near Valaichchenai. Batticaloa station buildings are also in hand.

Large saw mills are in the course of erection at Palugaswewa, 40 miles from Maho, and another will be put in hand at Gal-oya on the Trincomalee branch. Smaller saw mills are erected and working at Siyambalagama, Minneriya, and Punanai.

171 miles of rails and fastenings have been received in the Island.

The steelwork for the superstructure of the bridges over the Mahaweli-ganga and the Valaichchenai river (which will form combined road and railway bridges) is on order.

The country through which the line passes is most feverish during the rains in the north-east monsoon, the worst months being November, December, and January. During these months little progress can be relied on, most of the labour leaving the district.

Fully-equipped hospitals are provided for the staff (temporary) at Maho, Kantalai, Topawewa, and Odaimavadai, and temporary dispensaries erected at rail head, Habarana and Cod Bay (Trincomalee).

The total approximate estimate is Rs. 13,724,400, out of which Rs. 6,818,158 has been spent to date.

Harbour Rail Extension.—This work provides for making a rail connection from the Main line at Urugodawatta direct to the Harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, connecting the railway sidings south of the new lake and harbour canal with the lines to the north thereof, remodelling the present Wharf station, and abolishing the existing connection between the Wharf station and the Port station *via* Galle Face. It also provides for new exchange yard for the exchange of wagons between the Ceylon Government Railway and the Port premises.

Over-bridges are provided for Victoria Bridge road, Alutmawata road, Bloemendahl road, and Tanque Salgado road.

A large area originally forming compounds to "Summer Hill" and "Uplands" bungalows is being lowered to the level of the top of the Graving Dock.

The work is in a forward state. Urugodawatta junction and sidings connected therewith are completed. The over-bridges are nearly finished, and the laying of the new line well in hand.

A large area of land known as St. Thomas's College grounds, Mutwal, was purchased, and now forms part of the Port Commission premises.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 3,822,768, out of which Rs. 3,083,883 have been spent to the end of September, 1921.

Kolonnawa Oil Branch.—This short line connects the new oil installation premises with the Main line at Urugodawatta. The work is completed, and the maintenance is being taken over by the open line of railway on February 1 next.

Matara, Tangalla, and Hambantota Survey.—This proposed line passes through a very populous district as far as Tangalla. The survey between Tangalla and Hambantota was started in November last, fair progress being made. An immediate start is being made on the survey of the line between Matara and Tangalla.

The sum of Rs. 20,000 has been voted during the present year to cover the cost of the work.

XIII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department has now been nine years in existence. It is governed by Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, and the amending Ordinance, No. 25 of 1914.

New notifications were passed for improving the sanitary arrangements of distilleries, and regulating the conduct of local option ballots. The ballot rules have not taken final shape; various proposals regarding the composition of the lists of voters, the percentage required for abolition, the method of voting, the area affected, &c., have been put forward, and are still *sub judice*. Statistics *re* local option appear below.

The sanctioned strength of the Department in 1921 was:—1 Excise Commissioner; * 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise; 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise; 2 Superintendents of Excise; 15 Assistant Superintendents of Excise; 101 Excise Inspectors; and some 229 Excise peons, in addition to a clerical staff.

Departmental examinations continue to be held twice each year.

The regulations affecting the importation, sale, and possession of cocaine continue in force. There have been a few breaches of the law, but in each case the breach was not wilful.

The use of the hemp plant (*Cannabis indica* or *sativa*), of ganja and of bhang calls for continued vigilance. The drug is smuggled into north Ceylon from India, and from the north into other parts by rail. Its suppression is difficult, because the habit, once formed, is practically ineradicable, and its importers derive considerable profit from this traffic, despite the heavy penalties imposed.

The following prosecutions were entered in 1921:—

Number of cases decided	..	236
Number of persons convicted	..	206
Total fines and forfeitures	..	Rs. 22,454·51

In the detection of Excise offences also Excise officers have been equally energetic. 4,528 cases of offences against Excise law were detected in 1921, of which number 1,284 cases were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fines, totalling Rs. 18,124. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 114,847·94, exclusive of other punishment, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1920 show a total of 3,980 cases (1,338 cases compounded for Rs. 21,809·50, and Rs. 90,546·75 recovered by fines and forfeitures in court).

* From April 23, 1914, this post was vacant, but a Deputy was appointed from May 10, 1921.

Rewards paid during the year amounted to Rs. 22,180, or one-sixth the amount of the fines recovered.

The bids for the various arrack and toddy rents for the financial year 1921-22 as compared with the two preceding years are as follows :—

	Arrack.		Toddy.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1921-22	6,668,049	50*	1,801,329	75
1920-21	7,937,130	0†	1,952,330	23
1919-20	7,432,429	0	2,008,832	0

The fees obtained during the financial year 1921-22 from the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 96,751·01. The revenue derived from this source in 1920-21 was Rs. 95,598·51. The increase may be ascribed to higher assessment. Assessment is now based more precisely on the amount of gallage or business done. The consumption of gin has appreciably increased.

Some slight amendments and alterations were made in the arrack and toddy rent sale conditions for 1921-22. Separate sets of conditions were drawn up for the Northern Province and the Province of Uva, into which the "Contract Supply System" has been introduced.

The consumption of arrack and toddy in 1921 as compared with 1919 and 1920 appears thus :—

	Arrack.		Toddy.	
	Gallons consumed.		Gallons consumed.	
1921	848,376	..	4,443,800	..
1920	1,019,370	..	4,752,605	..
1919	1,029,269	..	4,570,296	..

There is a marked fall in the consumption of arrack in 1921 as compared with the year 1920. This was due principally to the slump in rubber and tea and the high prices of foodstuffs.

122 private distilleries were licensed in the year 1921-22, as against 135 licensed in 1920-21. The number of stills worked in 1921 were 170; 196 were at work in 1920.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Excise Commission (*vide* Sessional Paper IX. of 1917) certain rules have been passed in order to place the toddy-arrack distilleries and wholesale warehouses in a condition that will satisfy sanitary, analytical, and Excise requirements. The rules *re* sanitary requirements came into force from May 1, 1921, and those *re* analytical and Excise requirements will be brought into operation as from January 1, 1924. The latter involve a big change, almost a revolution, in the Distillery Circle. From an Excise point of view the substitution of large stills conforming to modern methods in place of a number of scattered small stills of the old fashioned type will make for a far more satisfactory control of output. Distillers of the old school are reluctantly coming into line, but they recognize that the change is salutary and inevitable.

There were 188 successful prosecutions in 1921, as compared with 125 in 1920, by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 9,353·50. There were also 116 offences compounded for Rs. 1,868 in the Distillery Circle.

* Do not include Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu, and Badulla rents, which are sold under the "Contract Supply System."

† These figures do not include Jaffna, Mannar, and Mullaittivu, which were sold under the "Contract Supply System."

Contract Supply System.—The contract supply system is now being worked in the Northern and Uva Provinces. The consumption in the Northern Province fell in 1920–21 by 33 per cent., but the revenue rose by 5 per cent. The fall in consumption was due chiefly to the high price of arrack sold, viz., Rs. 16 per gallon, and to the comparatively high price of rice. There is also small doubt that arrack was smuggled from neighbouring districts into this Province owing to the abnormally high price ruling there. But for October to December last, consumption has risen by 42 per cent. and revenue by 75 per cent. over the average for the corresponding period to the four preceding years. In short, the new system is a great success.

This system was introduced into Uva from October, 1921, during which year there has been a reduced consumption and a loss of revenue. This was the case even in the Northern Province during the first year of its working there, but the fall in consumption in Uva was due to other causes, viz., fall in the wages and spending power of coolies owing to the (1) general depression in the rubber market; (2) finer plucking of tea and consequent reduced earnings. Short measure has also played its part in diminishing the revenue derivable from the rent.

The arrack sold in the contract supply area is being manufactured at the Government Distillery, Kalutara. The profits accruing on the working of this distillery in 1921 amount to Rs. 122,056·33 on 85,237 gallons of toddy spirit outturned at 27° under proof. A very small quantity of molasses spirit was also manufactured in 1921 at the distillery.

In 1920 26,358 gallons of toddy spirit at 27° under proof were manufactured, showing a profit of Rs. 36,117·55, and 3,898 gallons of molasses spirit at 27° under proof at a profit of Rs. 3,140·57.

The arrack distilled in 1921 is intended also for sale and consumption in the Uva rent area.

Bonuses were paid to the Distillery Officer and his staff.

Brands of Spirit.—All the brands of spirit which have hitherto been approved by the Excise Commissioner for sale in the Island were revised, embodied in one list, and published in the shape of a notification under the Excise Ordinance in October, 1920. Since then two further lists have been published in April and October, 1921, respectively.

It was originally decided to publish lists of approved brands only once a year; but since it was found to inconvenience the trade, the waiting period has been reduced to one of six months.

The prohibition of “off sales” is being continued for the third year in the Jaffna and Chilaw Districts, but with little success. In spite of the prohibition of “off sales,” the arrack consumption in Chilaw District shows an increase of about 10,400 gallons over the 1918–19 rent period, when “off sales” were not prohibited. The consumption in the Jaffna District, however, fell by about 12,600 gallons, but this was due (1) to the high prices of rice and arrack; (2) to the closure of certain taverns. To meet the wishes of the Temperance Associations, it has been decided to try this experiment in two other districts, viz., Kurunegala and Ratnapura, as from October next. “Off sales” will be prohibited from all taverns in these four districts from October, 1922, and not in respect of a few selected taverns only as has been the rule hitherto.

Most of the other recommendations of the Excise Commission were given effect to in 1918, the principle of local option, however, being restricted to foreign liquor taverns and arrack taverns only. In 1919 this was extended to the other classes of taverns, viz., toddy taverns and places licensed for the sale of beer and porter. The privilege of local option is now being exercised in regard to all classes of taverns.

The following statement shows the result of local option ballots held in 1921 in respect of arrack taverns, toddy taverns, foreign liquor taverns, and beer and porter shops :—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.	Foreign Liquor Taverns.	Beer and Porter.
Number of ballots held ..	92	89	12	1
Number where more than 75 per cent. of the tax-paying inhabitants voted for abolition of taverns ..	49	60	7	—

Since the privilege of local option was conceded some 125 arrack taverns, 130 toddy taverns, and 10 foreign liquor taverns in all have been or are to be closed under the local option rules. Since October, 1919, the whole of the North-Central Province has been "dry" in respect of arrack and toddy. It has unfortunately been found that dry areas now supply themselves with gin, or with arrack from taverns in the next area, and from illicit sources of supply.

Excise Advisory Committees have assisted the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in fixing the number and the sites of taverns. Unofficial Excise Officers have in some places given valuable aid. All have shown a lively interest in the cause of temperance. But it is realized that the rise of illicit booths goes hand-in-hand with the suppression of taverns, and in order to suppress these illicit sales unofficial Vigilance Committees are being formed.

Excise learners are appointed on the results of a competitive examination held by the Director of Education. Exceptions were made for the admission of a few returned soldiers into the class. Excise clerks can also be admitted into it in accordance with the rules governing the admission of learners. The learners are trained in the Head Office or at the Headquarters of an Assistant Commissioner of Excise or Assistant Superintendent of Excise, and in the course of six months those who have made good progress are fit to take up appointments as Inspectors. There is, however, no training depôt, and no suitable provision at Headquarters for bringing Inspectors together, and inculcating and developing a spirit of camaraderie and *esprit de corps*. It may be possible to bring this about when times are better.

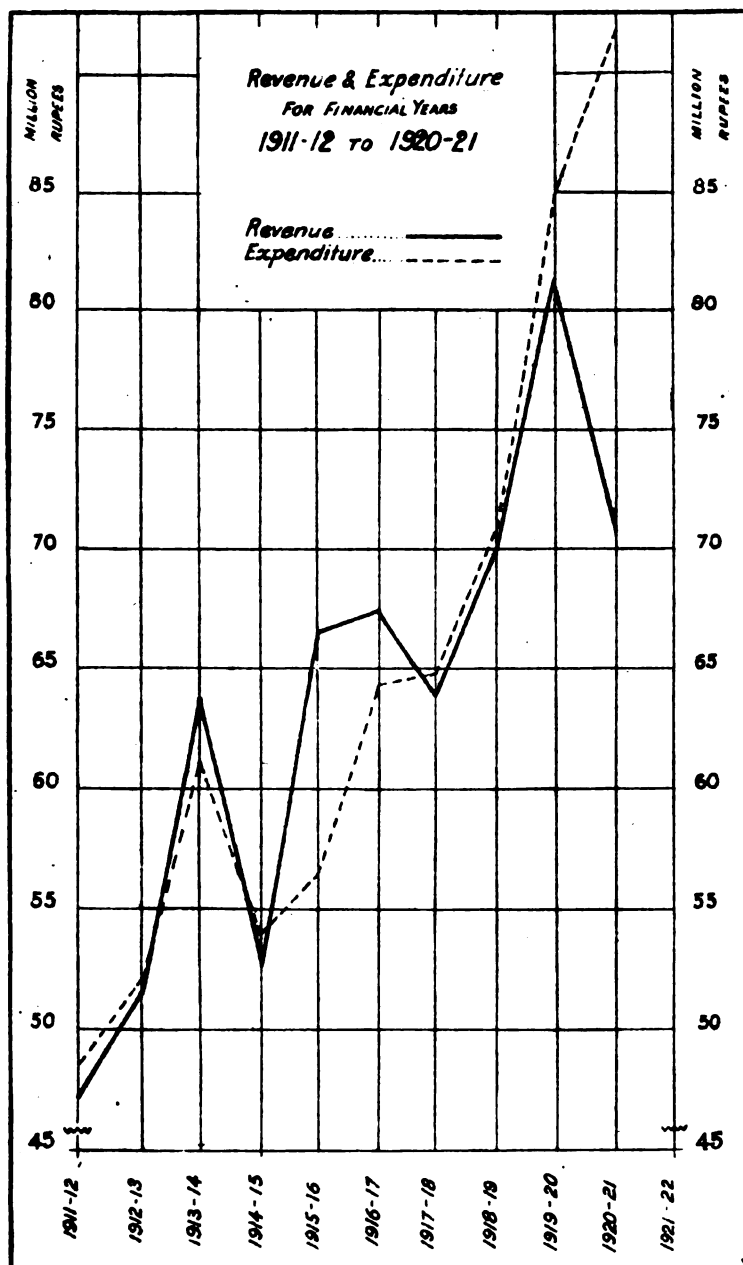
April 22, 1922.

C. H. COLLINS,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

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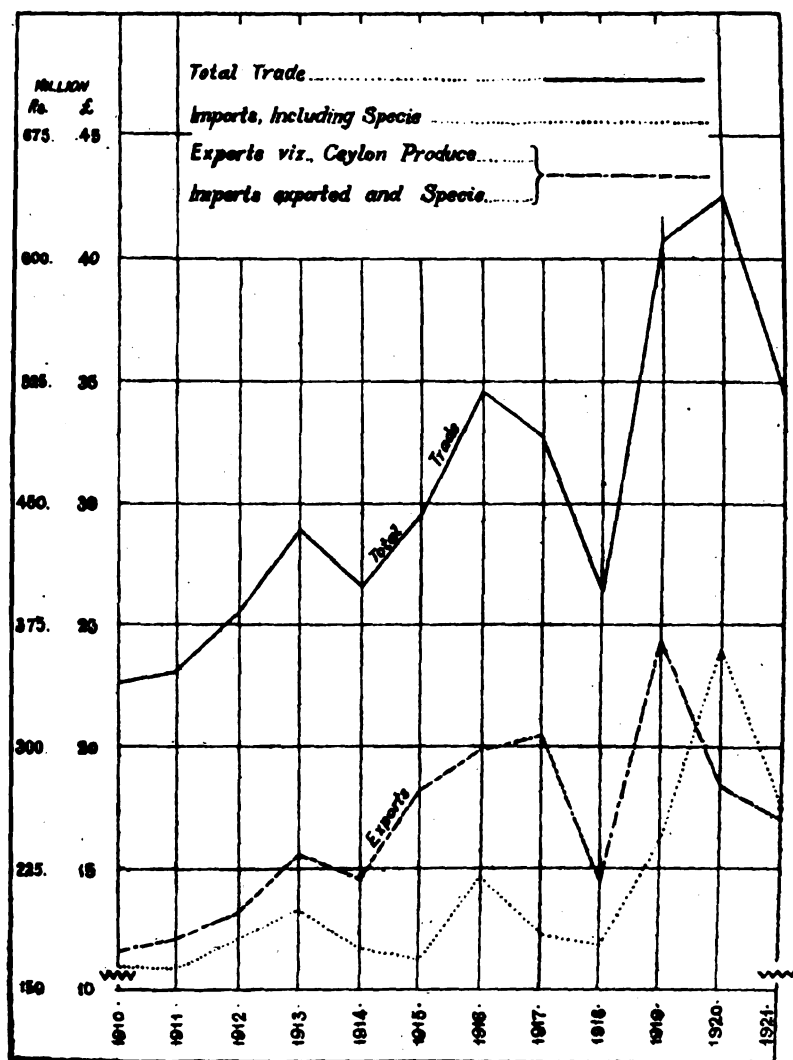
Diagram No.1.



Statistical Department

Photo. Litho. Survey Dept. Ceylon.
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Diagram No.2.

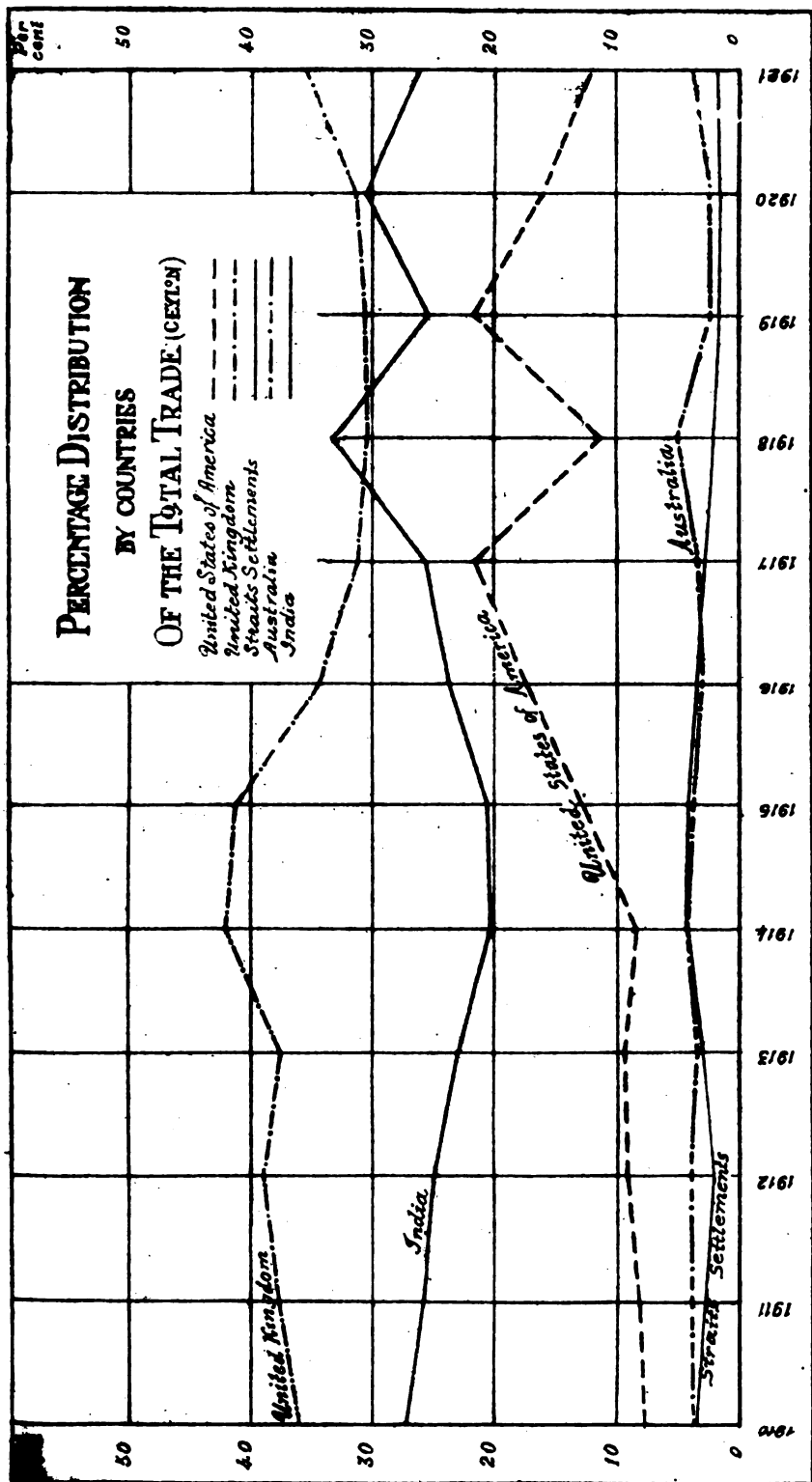


Statistical Department

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Diagram No. 3.



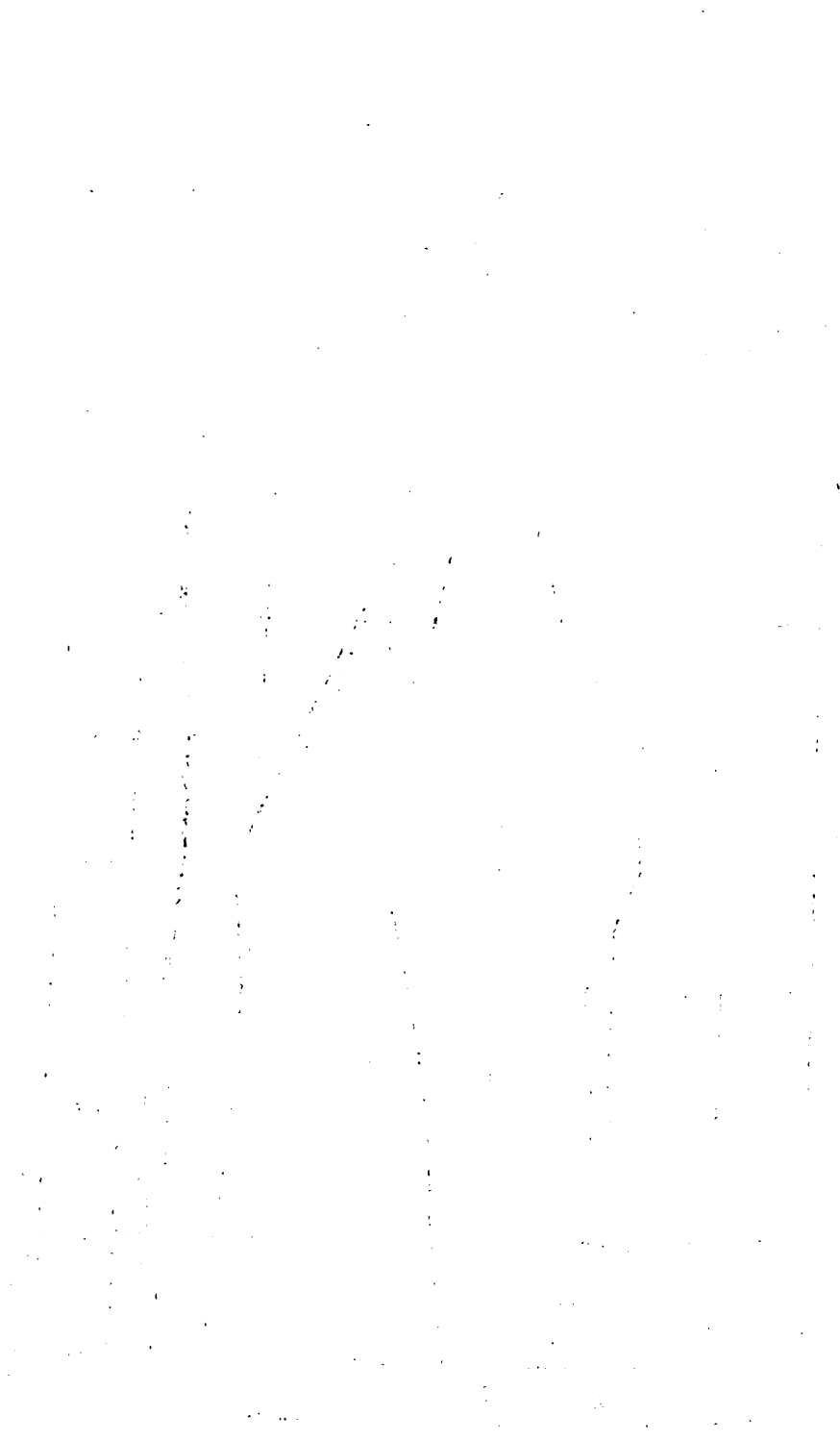


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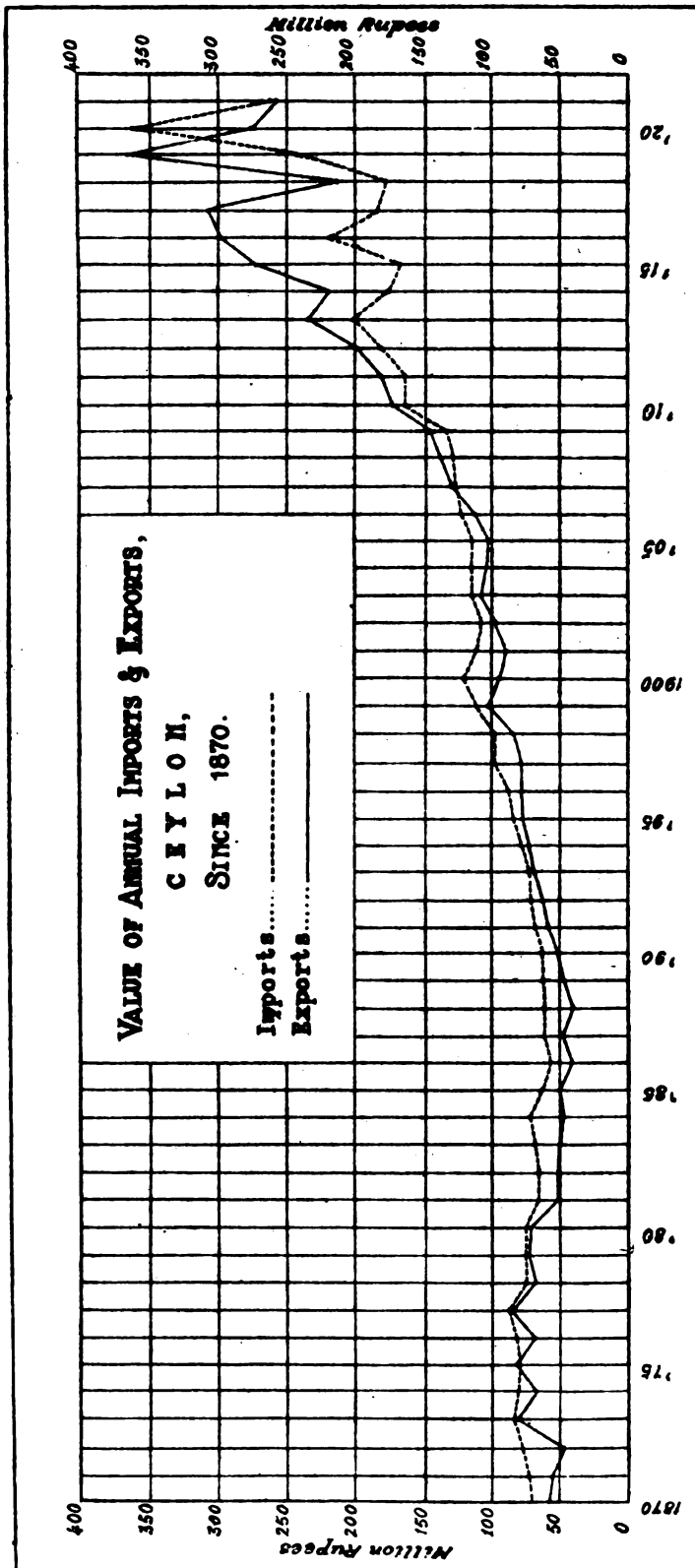
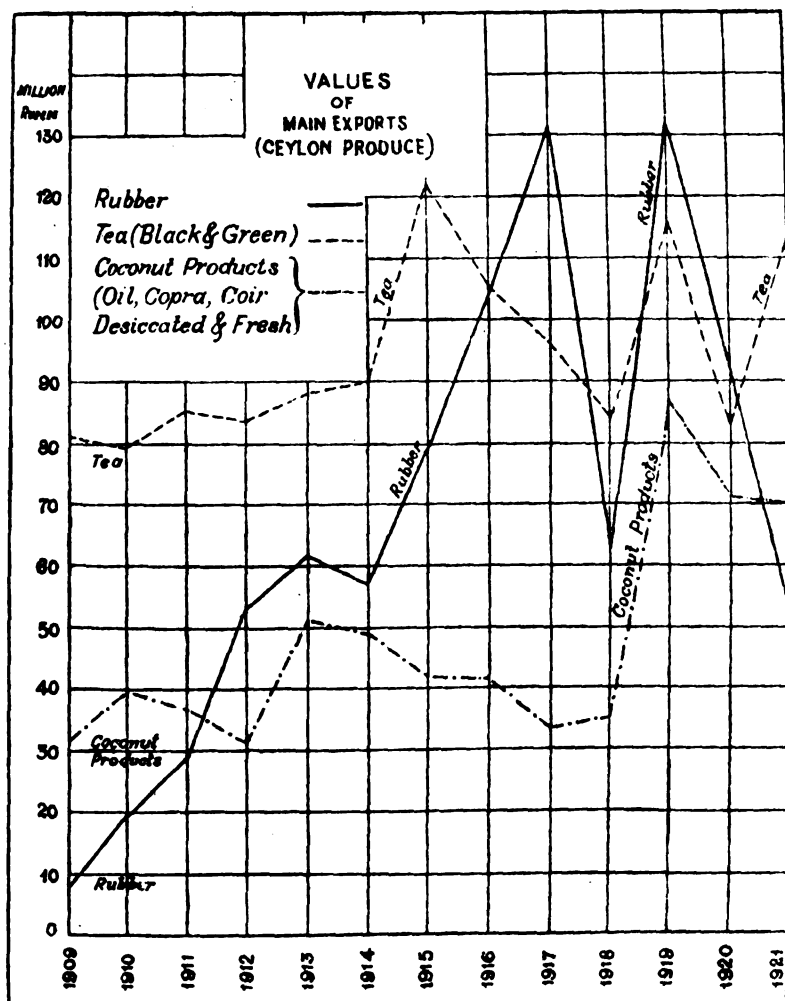


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Diagram No. 5.



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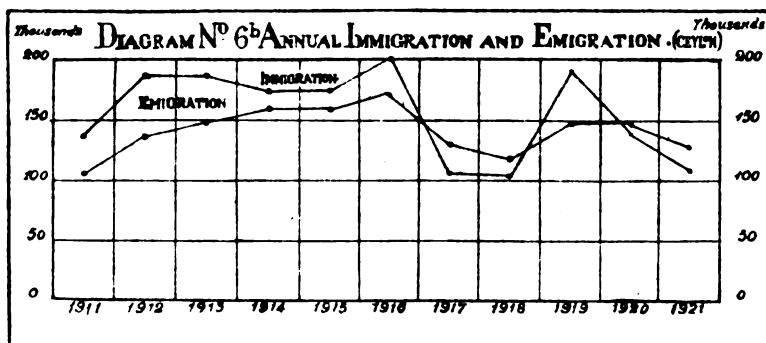
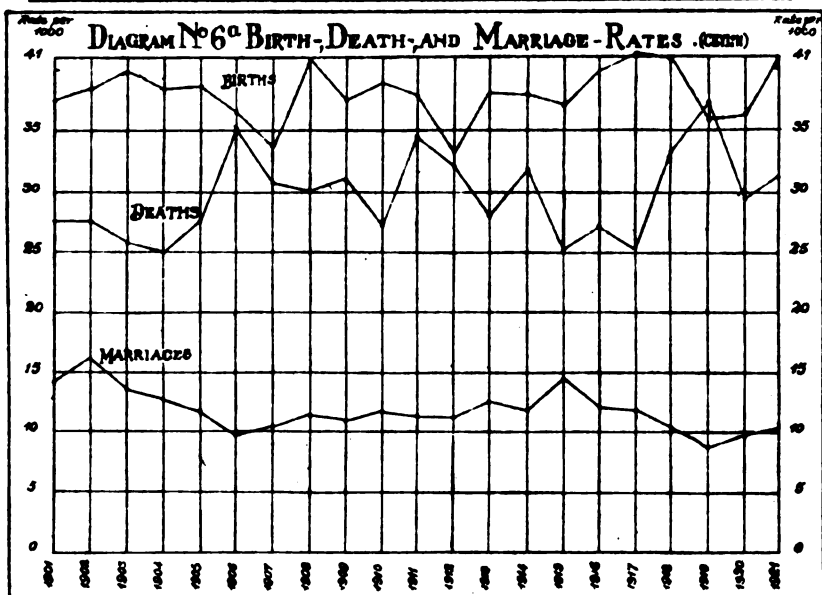
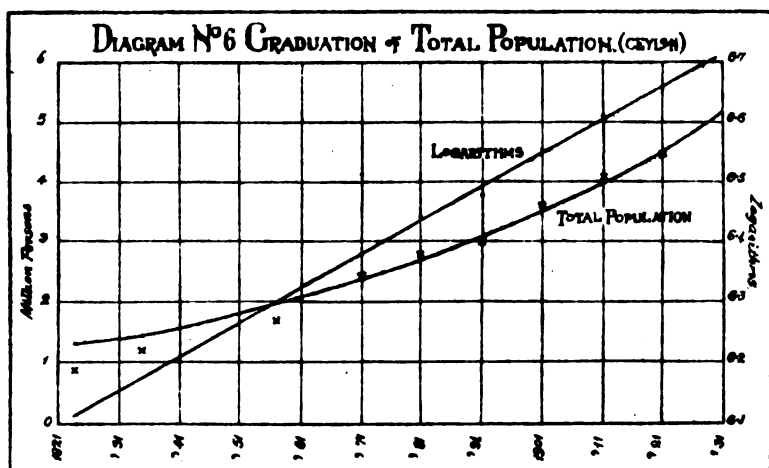
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COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	1920
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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No. 1139.

HONGKONG.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(ABRIDGED.)

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1108.)



LONDON:

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1922.

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No. 1139.

HONGKONG.**ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.**

PREFACE.

The Colony of Hongkong is situated off the south-eastern coast of China between latitude $22^{\circ} 9'$ and $22^{\circ} 17'$ N. and longitude $114^{\circ} 5'$ and $114^{\circ} 18'$ E. The island is about 11 miles long and about 2 to 5 miles in breadth, its circumference being about 27 miles and its area about 32 square miles. It consists of an irregular ridge of lofty hills rising to a height of nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, stretching nearly east and west, with few valleys of any extent and little ground available for cultivation.

The island, then desolate and sparsely inhabited by fishermen, was ceded to Great Britain in January, 1841; the cession being confirmed by the Treaty of Nankin in August, 1842; and the charter bears the date 5th April, 1843. All that part of Kowloon peninsula lying South of Kowloon Fort to the northernmost point of Stone-cutter's Island together with that island was ceded to Great Britain under the Convention signed at Peking in October, 1860, and under the Convention signed at Peking in June, 1898, the area known as the New Territories including Mirs Bay and Deep Bay was leased to Great Britain by the Government of China for 99 years.

Trade gradually developed as China became accustomed to foreign intercourse and it increased greatly owing to the opening of the Suez Canal. It now stands at about 200 million pounds sterling per annum.

Large local banking, dock, steamboat, and insurance companies were established between 1865 and 1872, and their numbers are being continually added to.

The Colony is the centre of an incessant flow of Chinese emigration and immigration.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Trade was throughout the year in a depressed state, largely owing to the overstocked condition of the market which prevailed in the autumn of 1920.

The rice trade was on the whole unsatisfactory. The Cuban market, which is one of the main outlets, was closed to Hongkong until the end of June, when the lifting of the embargo on the importation of

rice into Cuba brought temporary relief. The improvement was, however, short-lived in consequence of competition from Germany where considerable stocks of rice had been accumulated, which on account of the depreciation of the mark could be re-exported at prices considerably lower than those prevailing in the East.

Pilferage of cargo in transit which had caused the greatest anxiety to the commercial community in all parts of the world showed a distinct diminution towards the end of the year, largely owing to increased Police patrol services and to more efficient control exercised by the various steamship owners, by wharf companies, and by other interests involved.

Considerable improvement was shown during the year in the mail service between Great Britain and the Far East and the delays in the transmission of telegrams which had prevailed since the War were substantially reduced by the completion of a new cable from London to Singapore.

The year was marked by further strikes affecting mechanics and skilled labour generally, resulting in advances of wages by some 30 per cent.

The year opened with Exchange at $3\frac{1}{2}$. A rapid fall was registered until on March 7th the rate was $2\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}$, the lowest for the year. Silver then reacted with the result that Exchange gradually advanced with one or two setbacks until the figure of $2\frac{11}{16}$ was reached in the early part of October. Later a steady decline set in until on December 31st the rate was quoted at $2\frac{7}{8}$ for T/T. on London.

During recent years great and rapid development has taken place on the Kowloon Peninsula. Extensive garden lots have been converted into building sites and rapidly built over; low-lying areas have been filled in by the spoil from the levelling of other parts and expansion has therefore been possible over both; while the area available for building purposes is being extended by large reclamations on the sea front. The increase in popularity of this district is markedly shown in the latest census statistics; during the last ten years, the population of Kowloon has increased by 55,951 or 82.96 per cent., a phenomenal increase for a district which in 1881 numbered only 9,021 inhabitants.

The decennial census of the civil population of the Colony was taken in the Island of Hongkong and Kowloon on the night of April 24th and in the New Territories between March 24th and April 24th, the floating population being enumerated between April 23rd and 26th. The total population was found to be 625,166, an increase of 168,427 or 36.87 per cent. on the figures for 1911.

I.—FINANCES.

The revenue for the year amounted to \$17,728,132 being \$2,391,782 more than the estimate and \$3,038,460 more than the revenue for the previous year.

Compared with the returns for 1920 there were increases under every head.

The expenditure, inclusive of a sum of \$3,053,525 spent on Public Works Extraordinary, amounted to \$15,739,652 being \$1,609,498 less than the estimate, and \$1,250,058 more than the expenditure in 1920. Compared with the estimates there were increases under 18 heads as against 8 heads where there were decreases. The excess amounting to \$196,971 under Miscellaneous Services was due to transport of Government servants, and \$210,530 in the case of Kowloon-Canton Railway due to two motor coaches and motor trailer. Military expenditure was less than the estimate by \$202,100 due to recovery of amount overpaid in 1920. Imports and Exports Department shows a saving of \$254,086 due to less purchase of Opium, and Public Works Extraordinary was less by \$1,913,874 than the amount estimated. The item Charge on account of Public Debt was responsible for an excess over the estimates of \$108,244 due to lower exchange.

The balance to the credit on the year's working was \$1,988,480 and the assets and liabilities account showed on the 31st December a credit balance of \$6,478,746.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the five years 1917-1921 :—

				<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
				\$	\$
1917	...	...	...	15,058,105	14,090,828
1918	...	...	...	18,665,248	16,252,172
1919	...	...	...	16,524,975	17,915,925
1920	...	...	...	14,689,672	14,489,594
1921	...	...	...	17,728,132	15,739,652

The amount of the consolidated loan stands at £1,485,733. Against this there is at credit of the Sinking Fund a sum of £368,403. The Local Loan under Ordinance No. 12 of 1916 amounts to \$3,000,000 and there are the sums of \$664,495 and £89,093 at credit of the Sinking Fund.

During the period 1912-1921 the assessment of the whole Colony has risen from \$12,312,306 to \$18,696,660, an increase in rateable value of \$6,384,354.

The circulation on the 31st December of notes of the three Banks having authorised issues was as follows :—

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	...	...	\$40,395,225
Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China	...	...	9,074,137
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited	...	...	1,321,503
			<u>\$50,790,865</u>

The currency of the Colony consists, in addition to the notes of these Banks, of British, Hongkong, and Mexican dollars and of subsidiary coin, which continued at par throughout the year.

The total issue of subsidiary coins less those demonetised now amounts to \$20,789,370 nominal value, and they were up to the year 1905 readily absorbed at par, large quantities being taken by the neighbouring provinces of China. During 1916 ten cent pieces of the

face value of \$5,028,000 were shipped to Calcutta for purposes of demonetisation. The discount which prevailed between 1905 and 1916 may be attributed to the immense quantity of similar coin which was minted at Canton as well as to the amount of Hongkong coin minted largely in excess of the needs of the Colony by itself. In 1905 the Hongkong Government ceased to issue any subsidiary coin and in 1906 it began a policy of demonetising all its subsidiary coin received as revenue. This policy was continuously followed till 1918 except during a brief period in 1911. Coin to the face value of \$23,235,459 has thus been redeemed. The total issue by the Hongkong Government was of the face value of about \$44,000,000.

II.—SHIPPING AND TRADE, INDUSTRIES, FISHERIES, AGRICULTURE, AND LAND.

(a.)—SHIPPING.

The total of the Shipping entering and clearing at Ports in the Colony during the year 1921 amounted to 672,680 vessels of 43,420,970 tons, which, compared with the figures for 1920, shows a decrease of 10,816 vessels, with an increase of 3,298,443 tons.

Of the above, 52,222 vessels of 27,852,616 tons were engaged in Foreign Trade, as compared with 43,364 vessels of 24,194,022 tons in 1920, and were distributed as follows:—

	1920. Numbers.	1921. Numbers.	1920. Tonnage	1921. Tonnage.
	%	%	%	%
British Ocean-going Ships ..	9.6	8.9	34.5	33.3
Foreign Ocean-going Ships ..	12.5	11.1	38.1	38.8
British River Steamers ..	11.9	11.0	13.5	12.6
Foreign River Steamers ..	4.0	3.5	2.4	2.1
Steam Launches (under 60 tons)	11.6	12.8	0.7	0.7
Trading Junks	50.4	52.7	10.8	12.5
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

N.B.—The movements of Fishing Junks are not included in this Table.

Of vessels of European construction, 5,226 Ocean Steamers, 3,775 River Steamers, and 3,336 Steamships not exceeding 60 tons entered during the year, giving a daily average of 33.8 ships, as compared with 29.4 ships in 1920 and 29.1 ships in 1919.

The average tonnage of individual ocean vessels entering the port has increased from 1,831.0 to 1,919.8 tons, that of British ships has decreased from 2,002.3 to 1,997.5 tons, while that of foreign ships has increased from 1,699.2 to 1,857.9 tons.

The average tonnage of individual river steamers entering during the year has increased from 425.8 to 460.5 tons.

That of British river steamers has increased from 516.1 to 570.5 tons, and that of foreign river steamers has decreased from 324.3 to 316.7 tons.

In steamships not exceeding 60 tons employed in foreign trade, there is an increase of 1,659 ships with an increase in tonnage of 28,479 tons or 33.0 per cent. in numbers and 17.0 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to 19 newly licensed launches plying in 1921.

Junks in foreign trade show an increase of 5,659 vessels and an increase of 873,853 tons or 25.9 per cent. in numbers and 33.4 per cent. in tonnage.

In local trade (*i.e.*, between places within the waters of the Colony), there is a decrease in steam-launches of 21,682 and a decrease of 462,528 tons or 3.5 per cent. in numbers and 3.2 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to bigger launches being employed in local ferry services, making fewer trips.

Junks in local trade show an increase of 2,007 vessels and an increase of 102,377 tons or 9.5 per cent. in numbers and 7.9 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to more junks being employed on reclamation.

There was an increase in British ocean-going shipping of 457 ships or 10.9 per cent. and an increase of 896,114 tons or 10.7 per cent. This increase is due to newly-built ships and enemy ships transferred to the British flag and various steamship lines running their eastern trade which were elsewhere employed during war times.

British river steamers have increased by 605 ships with an increase in tonnage of 262,309 tons or 11.7 per cent. in numbers and 8.0 per cent. in tonnage. This increase is due to the s.s. "Chuen Chow," which was laid up, being again put on the Macao run.

Foreign ocean-going vessels have increased by 409 ships, with an increase of 1,593,861 tons or 7.5 per cent. in numbers and 17.2 per cent. in tonnage. This increase is due to the large amount of new American, Norwegian and Chinese vessels frequenting the port and enemy vessels being transferred to other nationalities.

Foreign river steamers show an increase of 69 ships, with an increase in tonnage of 2,878 tons or 3.8 per cent. in numbers and 0.5 per cent. in tonnage. This increase is due to two Chinese ships which were added to the Wuchow service at the end of last year making regular trips throughout the year.

The actual number of individual ocean-going vessels of European construction during the year 1921 was 988, of which 343 were British and 645 foreign. In 1920 the corresponding figures were 927, of which 330 were British and 597 foreign.

These 988 ships measured 2,713,098 tons. They entered 5,232 times and gave a collective tonnage of 10,044,422 tons.

Thus 61 more ships entered 425 more times and gave a collective tonnage greater by 1,242,802 tons, an average of 2,924.2 tons per entry.

TRADE.

Detailed and accurate statistics of imports and exports are collected and published by the Imports and Exports Department.

OPIUM.

Two hundred and twenty-three (223) chests of Persian opium were imported during the year. 223 chests were exported to Formosa.

Four hundred and thirty-five (435) chests of uncertificated Indian opium were imported; 325 chests for the Macao opium farmer, and the remaining 120 chests for the Government opium monopoly.

The table below shows the total imports and exports since 1913 :—

	1921. Chests.	1920. Chests.	1919. Chests.	1918. Chests.	1917. Chests.	1916. Chests.	1915. Chests.	1914. Chests.	1913. Chests.
Stock in hand on 1st January.	329	329	253	799½	977½	1,303½	2,256½	4,580½	5,560
Imported during the year.	658	1,525½	1,290	1,259	1,657	1,706	1,873	3,059½	9,108½
Total ..	987	1,854½	1,543	2,058½	2,634½	3,009½	4,129½	7,640	14,668½
Bailed by Opium Farmer.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	667
Bailed by Government.	200½	225	377	539	352	365	340	413	—
Spurious Opium destroyed.	—	—	—	1	13	—	17	19	—
Used locally ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing or stolen	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	2
Sold to Government.	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exported during the year.	548	1,297½	837	1,265½	1,469	1,667	2,469	4,911½	9,419
Total ..	760½	1,525½	1,214	1,805½	1,835	2,032	2,826	5,383½	10,088
Stock remaining on 31st December	226½	329	329	253	799½	977½	1,303½	2,256½	4,580½

Emigration and Immigration.

One hundred and fifty-six thousand and eleven (156,011) emigrants left Hongkong for various places during the year 1921, (105,258 in 1920). Of these, 98,382 were carried in British ships and 57,629 in foreign ships.

One hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-four (159,064) returning emigrants were reported to have been brought to Hongkong from the several places to which they had emigrated either from this Colony or from coast ports, as against 122,438 in 1920. Of these, 107,301 arrived in British ships and 51,763 in foreign ships.

(b.)—INDUSTRIES.

(i.)—Under European Management.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The figures are as follows for the year :—

Taikoo Dockyard & Eng. Co., Ltd.	9 vessels of	7,725 gross tons and	6,900 I.H.P.
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	6 "	26,637 "	17,700 "
W. S. Bailey & Co., Ltd.	20 "	3,387 "	2,192 "
Kwong Fook Cheong	1 "	200 "	280 "
Total	36 vessels of	37,949 gross tons and	27,072 I.H.P.

Sugar Refineries.—The year 1921 saw the gradual adjustment of prices to a normal level and although sellers were successful in maintaining prices until May, they eventually dropped to about Guilders 10. A period of adjustment was unavoidable after the very high prices ruling in 1920 and the dislocation of stocks resulting, but a more satisfactory state of affairs may be looked for on the return of normal production and consumption.

Yarn.—The yarn trade during 1921 was not unsatisfactory, and the few native dealers who survived the collapse of the previous year closed the period profitably.

The total quantity of Indian yarn imported into the Colony during the year amounted to 110,000 bales, and 25,000 bales were brought forward from the previous year.

Clearances totalled 121,000 bales, leaving a carry-over of 14,000 bales.

Cotton.—Middling American cotton was quoted in Liverpool on 1st January at 8·65*d.* for spot. It advanced until the 17th idem, when 10·69*d.* was reached, then slumped to its lowest point for the period under review, *viz.*, 6·38*d.* on 28th February.

A fairly even position was maintained between 7*d.* and 8*d.* for four months, until the end of August, when the U.S.A. Cotton Bureau estimates reported a shortage in crop which brought in heavy buyers, with the result that on 29th September 15·70*d.* was registered. Later it became apparent that the bureau's figures were incorrect and the rate gradually sagged away until on 31st December the quotation was 11·36*d.*

Rope Making.—Trade during 1921 was very much the same as in 1920. Exchange ruled more favourably and bigger business should have resulted had it not been for increased competition with lower quality rope in some of the markets.

Cement Manufacture.—The demand for cement continued unabated for the first eight months of the year, but there was a material falling off in exports to India, Java, etc., during the last four months, due chiefly to the importation there of large quantities of cheap cement principally from Belgium, Germany and Italy. The total turnover, however, was almost exactly the same as that of the previous year.

(ii.)—*Under Chinese Management.*

Tin.—This line of business was not nearly as good as 1920, chiefly owing to the unsettled state of affairs in the interior of China, especially in the Kwangsi Province; also lack of demand from both Europe and America. Therefore, the local prices only varied from \$5 to \$7 per picul for the whole year round, in spite of a fair quantity having been seized by the Kwangtung military authorities from Fu-Roo of the Kwangsi Province after the civil war between the two provinces, and being offered to be disposed of at a cheap rate. At the beginning of the year prices seemed to be very much stronger.

Imports and exports for the year, in approximate figures, were :—

<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
From Straits	700 Tons.	To United Kingdom	2,000 Tons.
„ China.....	50 „	„ United States...	1,000 „
„ Yunnan	8,000 „	„ China.....	2,100 „
„ Kwangsi	200 „	„ Japan	1,000 „
	<u>8,950 Tons.</u>		<u>6,100 Tons.</u>

Native Tobacco.—Practically nothing was done during the whole year. Prices were down more than 50 per cent. and all houses lost heavily.

Leather and Hides.—Some improvements had been made in these lines and dealers made some money with a fair amount of business transacted, but imports of hides from Kwangsi were scarce on account of the trouble in the interior of China.

Ginger and Preserves.—The export of these commodities increased a good deal and dealers made money on account of cheap prices of ginger and sugar.

Soy.—There was not much change in this line on that of the previous year.

Paper.—Owing to heavy stocks and small demand losses are reported.

Vermilion.—Very little business was done and was worse than 1920.

Lard.—This line of business was very much behind 1920, owing to lack of demand from foreign countries.

Tinned Goods.—General improvement has been made in these lines, as cost of tin-plates, sugar and raw materials was less.

Shamshoo.—Spirit of wine and sugar were cheaper, therefore profits to native brewers were better, but exportation was about the same as the previous year.

Vinegar.—Molasses were low in price and good business was done.

Knitted Vests and Socks.—Up to date machinery is now being used, and these industries are progressing day by day. Great demand was made from the interior and from Australia, and profitable business resulted.

Rattan and Fibre Furniture.—There was not much improvement on the previous year. Local prices advanced 5 per cent. only on account of labour. Seagrass and rattan core were also slack.

(c.)—FISHERIES.

A considerable proportion of the boat population of Hongkong supports itself by deep-sea fishing, in which pursuit a large number of junks are engaged. The villages of Aberdeen, Stanley, Shauiwan, and also many in the New Territories, are largely dependent upon this industry for their prosperity. Fresh water fish is imported from Canton and the West River. There are oyster beds of considerable value in Deep Bay.

(d.)—FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE, AND BOTANY.

At Kowloon Tsai, 2,500 one year old trees of *Pinus massoniana* were planted.

On the hills between Cheung Sha Wan and the Taipo Road, 50,000 sites were sown with pine seeds.

All sites in which seeds had failed to germinate at Cheung Chau and Fan Ling were resown with pine seeds; altogether 45 pounds of pine seeds were used.

Two hundred and ninety-four pounds of pine seed was sown broadcast on grass banks above and below roads at the following places, Taipo Road, Tsin Wan Road, Chai Wan gap to Tytam, Tytam to Stanley, Stanley Road, Findlay Road, Lugard Road, Sai Kung gap to Ha Chan gap and roads on Cheung Chau.

On the grass slopes below Severn Road 394 one year old trees of *Pinus massoniana* were planted.

Broad-leaved trees planted.

In the vicinity of Aberdeen reservoir, 186 young trees of "Jak" (*Artocarpus integrifolia*) were planted.

One hundred and eighty-five tristanias and 45 eucalyptus were planted on grass banks below Severn Road.

The trees used for roadside planting were principally camphor, tristania, albizzia, melaleuca, poinciana, ficus, aleurites and bauhinia; these were used at the following places, Tytam Road 20, Shaukiwan 12, Shaukiwan to Tytam 59, Bowen Road 2, Pokfulam Road 2, Barker Road 6, Plantation Road 13, Conduit Road 2, Albany Road 2, Nathan Road 46, Mody Road 3, Taipo Road 422, Tsin Wan Road 738 and 24 near the market on the Sham Shui Po reclamation.

Trees removed.

In connection with general improvements to and widening of roads in various parts of the Colony, large shade trees had to be felled at the following places, Queen's Road East 9, Arsenal Street 2, Caine Road 4, Eastern Street 2, Pokfulam Road 1.

At Taipo police station a number of large specimens of tristania which were entirely shutting out the view of the railway station and the adjoining public road were removed.

In connection with extensions at Kowloon and Yaumati reservoirs and the formation of the site for new cemeteries at Fo Pang Hang, numbers of *Pinus massoniana* had to be removed from adjoining plantations.

At the top of earth banks at the back of the reclamation at Aplichau, a large number of camphors, pines and tristanias had to be felled to allow for the removal of earth and to prevent landslides.

A very large number of pine and other trees were removed from building sites in all parts of the Colony.

Insect pests were much less troublesome than during the preceding year; the pine tree caterpillar made its appearance in small numbers only at Fan Ling; these were immediately collected and destroyed.

Creepers on pine trees in Hongkong and the New Territories were continually cut and removed.

Pine seedlings in pits, which are raised from seed sown in sufficient numbers to allow of the germination of five seeds to one pit, were regularly inspected, and where found to be thick the weakest were cut out.

Clearing of undergrowth in connection with anti-malarial measures was maintained throughout the whole year; the total area cleared amounted to 3,400,000 sq. feet.

The total area cleared for surveys by the Public Works Department amounted to 3,990,000 sq. feet.

Vegetables and native fruits were grown in the experimental garden at Fan Ling for demonstration purposes.

The first and second rice crops were very good, pea nuts fair, and sugar-cane and pineapples very good.

Nine thousand, eight hundred and thirty-five cases containing 951,605 bulbs of *Narcissus tazetta* were inspected and certified as apparently free from insect pests and fungoid diseases.

Seven hundred and ninety-seven plant specimens were mounted during the year, of these 641 were from Kwong Tung Province, 54 from Kwai Chau, and 102 from Australia.

One hundred Australian specimens were presented by Mr. H. M. Maiden, I.S.O., F.R.S., F.L.S., of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

(c).—LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The net amount of premium received from sales of crown land and pier rights, New Territories excepted, for the year 1921 was \$1,591,308·26, an increase of \$1,268,693 on the preceding year and \$1,035,148 more than the average for the previous five years (1916-1920); the year's result however is abnormal; one item alone exceeds the total of any of the years included for the purpose of comparison.

The principal items were \$563,000 for Marine Lots Nos. 430 and 431, (North Point), \$124,000 (part premium) for Inland Lots Nos. 2316 and 2319, (Queen's Road Central and Pedder Street sites), \$94,000 (part premium) for Inland Lots Nos. 2317 and 2318 (Queen's Road Central and Pedder Street sites), \$71,000 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1432, \$41,000 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1439, \$8,370 for Pier No. 6 and \$1,067 for Pier No. 51.

In the New Territories the net amount received for premium on sales of land was \$85,591·01, the principal items being \$9,295·70 for New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 317 and \$6,550 for New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 339, being \$144,858·04 less than the year 1920, in which year New Kowloon Marine Lots Nos. 6 and 7 sold for \$150,660 and New Kowloon Marine Lot No. 8 for \$51,418.

The number of deeds and documents registered in the Land Office was 4,466 and exceeded the total of any previous year by 1061; the aggregate consideration set out in deeds registered was \$107,855,703·10 as against \$67,493,394 in 1920.

Resumptions include portion of Marine Lot No. 65 (Praya East), Inland Lot No. 358 (Caroline Hill) and Kowloon Farm Lot No. 9.

Development at Shamshuipo continues.

With one exception agreements relating to the Praya East Reclamation were entered into by all entitled to participate.

The total area of land sold or granted during the year was 534*a.* 3*r.* 7·91*p.*, of which 523*a.* 0*r.* 78*p.* (including 361 acres for camphor growing) were dealt with by the District Officers. The total area of land resumed was 116*a.* 1*r.* 18·74*p.*

In the New Territories the demand for land was steady with upward tendency.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-two (32) ordinances were passed during 1921, of which fifteen were amendments of previous ordinances.

The most important of these ordinances were :—

The Treaty of Peace (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1920 (No. 7).

The Treaty of Peace (Hungary) Order, 1921 (No. 29).

These two ordinances were for the purpose of modifying certain provisions of the Orders in Council, and of adapting the provisions of the said Orders to the circumstances of the Colony.

The Holts Wharf (No. 3).

The Mercantile Bank note issue (No. 26).

The St. Joseph's College incorporation (No. 27).

These are private enactments. The object of the first one was to give the Governor in Council power to make by-laws for the maintenance of order and safety in the conduct of the business carried on at Holts Wharf, while the second one was passed to extend the period in which the Mercantile Bank of India was empowered to make, issue, re-issue and circulate bank notes. The object of the third was to incorporate the Christian Brothers School in Hongkong known as St. Joseph's College.

The Custodian (No. 6)—The object of which was to make it clear that property, rights and powers vested in, or conferred upon, any holder of the office of custodian passed to his successors in office.

The Stamp (No. 8)—The objects of this ordinance were (a) to increase the revenue from stamp duties, (b) to facilitate the collection of these duties and prevent evasion, and (c) to correct various defects in the law which had long been known to exist.

The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) (No. 9)—The object being to facilitate the enforcement in the Colony of maintenance orders made in England or Ireland and *vice versa*.

The Criminal Procedure (No. 10)—The object of this ordinance was to effect several improvements in the criminal procedure of the Supreme Court.

The Non-Ferrous Metal Industry (No. 11)—This was to repeal the Non-Ferrous Metal Industry Ordinance, 1919. It was recognised that the licence system introduced was of no practical use in Hongkong, which, as regards the metal industry, was a transshipping centre and not a producing country.

The Companies (No. 12)—The object of this ordinance was to introduce into the Companies Ordinances, 1911–1915, some amendments which experience had shown to be advisable, and to bring the law of the Colony into conformity with the China (Companies) Amendment Order in Council, 1919.

The Rents (No. 13)—The object of this ordinance was to protect the tenants of domestic tenements from unreasonable increase in rental and from arbitrary termination of their tenancies.

The Praya East Reclamation (No. 17)—The object of this ordinance was to legalise and to provide for the reclamation of the eastern praya.

The Judgments (Facilities for Enforcement) (No. 32)—This ordinance was passed with a view to provide for the reciprocal enforcement of judgments and awards in the Colony and other parts of His Majesty's dominions and in territories under His Majesty's protection.

IV.—EDUCATION.

No important changes have taken place in the Education Department during the year under review. The staff, depleted by causes due to the War, is being gradually brought up to normal strength again.

The total number of pupils at schools in the Colony, excluding the police school and the uncontrolled schools in the New Territories, are :—

	Number of Pupils.		Total.
	English Schools.	Vernacular Schools.	
Government Schools	3,386	19	3,405
Military Schools	140	—	140
Excluded Private Schools ..	281	12	293
Grant Schools	2,401	3,736	6,137
Controlled Private Schools ..	4,882	15,854	20,736
Controlled Private Schools, New Territories.	—	3,989	3,989
Technical Institute	582	—	582
Total	11,672	23,610	35,282

The most important schools, apart from the excluded schools, are *Queen's College* for Chinese, four *District Schools* its feeders, and the *Belilios Public School* for Chinese girls. There is an *Indian School* of growing importance now housed in a new building

presented to the Colony by Sir Ellis Kadoorie. *Kowloon School* and *Victoria School* for children of British parentage have an average attendance of 171. There is also a school for the children of the Peak District, with an average attendance of 38. The *Diocesan School and Orphanage* and *St. Joseph's College* are important boys' schools in receipt of an annual grant. The *Italian, French*, and *St. Mary's Convents*, and the *Diocesan Girls' School*, are the most important of the English Grant Schools for girls.

The Hongkong Technical Institute affords an opportunity for higher education of students who have left school. Instruction was given in 1921 in building construction, chemistry (practical and theoretical), physics, electricity, commercial English, French, shorthand, book-keeping, cookery and translation. Classes in sanitation (public hygiene) are also held, the examinations being conducted under the auspices of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London. Classes for men and women teachers, both "English" and "Vernacular" are a feature of the Institute.

The lecturers are recruited from the members of the medical and educational faculties of the Colony, and from the Department of Public Works, and receive fees for their services. The Institute is furnished with a well equipped chemical laboratory and excellent physical apparatus.

The University of Hongkong, incorporated under the local University Ordinance, 1911, and opened in 1912, is a residential University for students of both sexes, the object of which is declared by the said ordinance to be "the promotion of Arts, Science and Learning, the provision of higher education, the conferring of degrees, the development and formation of the character of students of all races, nationalities, and creeds, and the maintenance of the good understanding with the neighbouring country of China."

The inception of the University was primarily due to the initiative of Sir Frederick Lugard, Governor of the Colony from 1907 to 1912, and to the liberality of benefactors of varied nationality and domicile, first amongst whom should be mentioned the late Sir Hormusjee Mody, by whom the entire expense of the erection of the main building was borne.

The University includes the three Faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Arts. Admission to all faculties is conditional upon passing the matriculation examination of the University or some examination recognised as equivalent thereto.

The Faculty of Medicine provides a five-year course of study in the usual pre-medical and medical sciences, supplemented by clinical work in the Government Civil and Tung Wah Hospitals, leading to the degree of M.B., B.S. The degrees of M.D., and M.S., may be obtained for post-graduate work. The degrees above-mentioned are recognised by the General Medical Council for registration in Great Britain.

The Faculty of Engineering provides a four-year course in practical and theoretical engineering, leading to the degree of B.Sc. (Eng.). Fourth year students specialise in civil, in mechanical or in electrical engineering. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.Sc. (Eng.).

The Faculty of Arts includes departments of pure arts and science, education (including practical teaching) and commerce. The course is in all cases one of four years and leads to the degree of B.A. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.A.

With a view to better securing the maintenance of the desired standard—which in the Faculty of Medicine is that of an English University degree and in the Faculty of Engineering that of the corresponding degree in the University of London—external examiners are, in all faculties, associated with the internal examiners in all annual and final examinations. In the Faculty of Engineering, but not in other faculties, degrees with honours are granted, the standard being assessed by special examiners chosen from amongst the external examiners in the University of London.

The degree of LL.D. is also granted, *honoris causa*.

The site of the University was given gratuitously by the Colonial Government. As subsequently enlarged by minor grants and by purchase, it includes an area of some 25 acres, looking out upon the harbour over the City of Victoria.

The main buildings, as already stated, were the gift of the late Sir H. Mody. In them are housed the chemical, physical and biological laboratories, the University library and portions of the engineering laboratories. They further include a Great Hall, a Senate Room and the lecture and class rooms used by the Faculty of Arts and for general purposes.

Special medical buildings include schools of anatomy, physiology, pathology and tropical medicine, erected at the cost of Chinese gentlemen resident in the Colony. In the case of each of the three schools last mentioned a larger or smaller sum still remains available for further equipment.

Special engineering buildings include :—

- (a) A power station, generating light and power for the estate, energy being supplied by internal combustion engines of varied types which are available for instructional purposes ;
- (b) A prime movers (steam) and hydraulics laboratory, at present housed in a converted pumping station, formerly the property of the Government ; and
- (c) A workshop, including a small machine-shop, smithy and carpenter's shop.

Electrical machinery (other than the main generating plant), electrical technology, the testing of materials and experimental mechanics are dealt with in the main building.

The larger part of the engineering equipment was the gift of British engineering firms.

Other buildings upon the estate include :—

- (a) The Vice-Chancellor's Lodge.
- (b) Staff-Quarters.
- (c) The Residential Hostels, and
- (d) The University Union Building.

The cost of the building last mentioned (some \$62,000) was met in approximately equal shares from University moneys and from public subscriptions, the entire cost of furnishing being met out of further subscriptions.

Unless exempted from residence (such exemption being ordinarily granted on the ground that the student's "manner of life is not such as is catered for in the hostels"), every matriculated student is required to reside either in a University, or in a recognised hostel.

The University hostels are three in number—Lugard Hall, Ebt Hall, and May Hall.

Recognised hostels are at present two in number—Morrison Hall, situate immediately above the University grounds and conducted by the London Missionary Society, and St. John's Hall, immediately opposite the front of the University, conducted by the Church Missionary Society.

Each student occupies a separate room or cubicle, and there are the usual common rooms. Each University hostel is in charge of a member of the staff, as resident Warden.

No University hostel at present exists for women students—whose right to admission to the University was first recognised in 1921; but by the courtesy of the school authorities, arrangements have been made for their lodging in connection with St. Stephen's Girls' College.

University fees for tuition and board amount to \$550 per annum, enabling a student who lives carefully to meet the whole of his expenses with a sum of \$1,000 per annum, as compared with a minimum sum of \$2,500 per annum, besides travelling expenses, in the case of a Chinese student going abroad for his education.

The number of students attending lectures at the beginning of 1922 was 251, made up of 86 in the Medical Faculty, 48 in the Faculty of Engineering and 117 in the Faculty of Arts.

Numerous scholarships are available, including the King Edward VII Scholarships founded by His Majesty's Government, the President's Scholarships founded by His Excellency the President of China, together with Scholarships (some of which are in the nature of bursaries) given by the Hongkong Government, the Chinese Government, the Metropolitan District of Peking, the Provincial Governments of Canton, Chihli, Yunnan and Hupeh, the Governments of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, the Government of Kedah and the Siamese Government. Students are also drawn from the Philippines, French Indo-China and Australasia.

Noteworthy events in 1921 were the appointment of Sir William Brunyate, K.C.M.G., as Vice-Chancellor in succession to Sir Charles Eliot, K.C.M.G., C.B., who resigned upon appointment as His Majesty's Ambassador at Tokio; the creation of a four-year course in Commerce, for which purpose a sum of \$12,000 for five years was promised by the General Chamber of Commerce of Hongkong; the increase of the Government subsidy from \$20,000 to \$50,000 a year, and the completion of a grant from the Colonial Government of \$1,000,000 as additional endowment together with a further sum of \$700,000 to pay off an accumulated deficit and to make good a portion of the sum spent on buildings and equipment; a gift of \$100,000 from Messrs. John Swire and Sons, Ltd., for the purposes of the Engineering

Faculty; a promise of \$100,000 by four half-yearly instalments from Sir Robert Ho Tung, for the building and equipment of an Engineering Workshop; a promise of \$100,000 by four half-yearly instalments from Mr. H. M. H. Nemazee for general purposes; a promise of \$50,000 spread over ten years, from Mr. Kwok Chung Yung; and negotiations with the Rockefeller Foundation of New York, which, since the end of the year, have resulted in the offer of the sum of \$750,000 for the foundation of three full-time chairs in the Faculty of Medicine.

The total cost of the land, buildings and equipment of the University may be placed at approximately \$1,750,000 and their replacement value at not less than \$2,500,000. The invested endowments exceed \$2,500,000, excluding sums promised and not yet received.

V.—PUBLIC WORKS.

BUILDINGS.

The erection of the following houses for senior officers was completed:—Two blocks each of four houses at Leighton Hill, three houses on Severn Road, one house for the Puisne Judge, and one house for a senior engineer, and, in addition, two contracts were let for two additional blocks of three houses each at Leighton Hill, and for one block containing six flats and four detached houses on the Homestead site, respectively.

All the houses at Leighton Hill are being constructed by Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs, and those on the Homestead site by Messrs. Little, Adams and Wood.

In addition, twelve houses at Happy Valley were completed for subordinate officers early in the year.

Good progress was made with the new police married quarters, containing six flats, in Caine Road.

Alterations were carried out to the kitchen block at Government House, and a new garage block was commenced which includes quarters for the custodian and two rooms for guests, for whom accommodation cannot be found in the main building.

The quarters for scavenging coolies at Hospital Road were completed towards the end of the year, and good progress was made with similar quarters in Belchers Street.

Foundations were commenced for the large building (new fire brigade station) opposite the Central Market, the details of the accommodation of which were given in last year's report. A temporary fire station was completed in Wanchai.

A contract was let, and work commenced, for a maternity section next to the Victoria Hospital, Barker Road, the Peak, and plans were prepared for the alteration to the main hospital block and to the nurses' quarters; also, an outpatients' block was commenced at the civil hospital.

In Kowloon, quarters for the Royal Observatory staff were completed, and an extension to the pig lairage at Ma-tau-kok was made.

The preparation of the site for the Kowloon hospital was in progress.

Drawings were prepared for the new police station at Yaumati and Mong-kok-tsui, and for an extension to the fire brigade station at Kowloon.

Other works of a minor nature were carried out.

In the New Territories, work was proceeding in connection with the rebuilding of four of the prison sheds at the Lai-chi-kok branch prison.

Good progress was made with the new clerks' quarters at Taiipo, and the land bailiff's quarters at Pingshan.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The following motor roads were in hand :—

A road contouring the south side of Mt. Davis and linking Pokfulam Road with the Victoria Road was completed, as was also the extension of Lugard Road; the first section of the road from Taitam Gap to Shek O, about one mile in length was also completed, and good progress was made with the second section thereof, and a contract for the third section was let; the two latter sections are also each about a mile in length.

A twenty-foot road from Wanchai Gap to Magazine Gap and from thence to Chamberlain Road was under construction; one, from Bowen Road to Wongneichong Gap—being the first part of the new road to Repulse Bay—was completed; and good progress was also made with the twenty-foot road from Bowen Road, contouring the hill towards Sookunpoo Valley, passing over the ridge where it will be joined by Broadwood Road.

A further section of the scheme for widening Kennedy Road was completed, and progress was also made with the scheme for widening Queen's Road, East, as opportunity afforded, though there still remains a considerable portion to be dealt with before the widening can be accomplished. Work on the scheme for the diversion of a certain portion of the Shaukiwan Road through Quarry Bay Village and the improvement of the alignment and levels of a considerable section of the same road on either side of the diversion was commenced.

In Kowloon, further progress was attained with the extension of the Coronation Road to the north west of Mong-kok village.

The section of the Kowloon City—Mong-kok-tsui Road east of the railway was nearing completion, and the section west of the railway was making good progress. The excavation from the hills to form the above-mentioned roads was being utilised to fill in the low-lying areas to the south of the Old Kowloon boundary line.

Extensive widenings of existing roads were carried out as follows :—

Kowloon City Road, between K.I.L. 1150 and the bridge over the stream course west of the "Hill of the King of the Sung"; from this latter point a sixty-foot width of roadway was constructed on a new alignment to the New Kowloon City—Mong-kok-tsui Road.

Salisbury Road, between Nathan and Chatham Roads.

Hankow Road, between Salisbury and Peking Roads.

Argyle Street, between Coronation Road and Ho-mun-tin.

The improvements to the Taipo Road, between the third and fifth milestones, and the section of this road—and the construction of a bridge—at Ma-nin-shui were completed.

A road extension, ten feet wide, was made from the Fanling-Sheung Shui Road to the Sheung Shui police station.

A considerable amount of surfacing of the hilly portions of the Lai-chi-kok—Castle Peak, Mong-kok-tsui—Taipo, and Taipo-Fanling Roads was done.

DRAINAGE.

The construction of a nullah at Mong-kok-tsui between the Taipo Road and the Old Kowloon boundary line near Kau-lung-tong was in progress. A beginning was made with the training and diversion of the large stream course to the east of Lai-chi-kok.

WATER WORKS.

Drawings and specifications were completed and tenders invited for the large scheme of filter beds to be constructed at the eastern end of Bowen Road; the contract had not, however, been awarded at the end of the year.

An additional rising main was laid to the Peak to enable more water to be pumped up to this district, and the laying of a new 8-inch main was commenced in order to connect Shaukiwan village with the city supply system; this latter work had to be suspended for a time on account of the alterations to the Shaukiwan Road. As a temporary measure, however, a 3-inch main was put through in order to obviate any difficulties which might arise until the larger pipe could be laid.

For the supply of an additional engine and boiler, required for the Pokfulam Road pumping station, the tender of Messrs. Tangye was accepted, and the foundation plans were received at the end of the year thus enabling a commencement to be made with the extension of the station so as to provide the necessary accommodation.

Tenders were considered for an additional steam pumping set for the Taitam Tuk pumping station, but in view of the excessive price quoted as compared with an electrically driven plant, the matter was again referred home for consideration by the consulting engineers.

The laying of a 3-inch main from the Wong-nei-chong reservoir to a service tank at Repulse Bay was completed and in service early in the year.

The work of substituting an 18-inch water main for the existing one of 12 inch from the Kowloon filter beds to Yaumati was completed, except for a short section beyond the third milestone on the Taipo Road where the road requires to be diverted. The replacing of the existing water mains in the Kowloon distribution system by larger ones was continued.

At the Kowloon filter beds, adjoining the Taipo Road, two new beds are in course of construction.

The taking over and the reconstruction of the existing water works supplying the Fanling Golf Club houses and a few other residences in that neighbourhood was completed.

Plans were prepared for a water supply at Taipo.

RECLAMATIONS.

At Aplichau, the reclamation under construction was nearly completed by the end of the year. It will provide a considerable area upon which it is hoped to be able to accommodate some of the old village lot-holders so that this insanitary area may be improved as opportunity arises.

Satisfactory progress was made with the filling in of the tidal flat and the cutting down of the hill between Tai-kok-tsui and Fuk-tsun-heung.

The work on the Shamshuipo reclamation scheme progressed satisfactorily, the rubble mound and the cement concrete blocks for the section under construction having been completed.

A commencement was made with a reclamation scheme at Cheung Sha Wan in conjunction with the tipping of the refuse collected from the Kowloon Peninsula and Hongkong.

The Kai Tak Land Investment Company made but little progress with their reclamation at Kowloon Bay. The sea-wall of that portion of it acquired by the Government as the site for the new gaol was completed and the entire area filled in to coping level.

The reclamation work which is being carried out by the Standard Oil Company of New York at Lai-chi-kok made good progress.

The marine lot-holders fronting Praya East having in May, 1920, agreed to the terms and apportionment of the reclamation to be carried out by the Government at Wanchai Bay and known as the Praya East Reclamation Scheme, the preparation of the necessary plans and documents was commenced forthwith, and an Ordinance (No. 17 of 1921) to give legal effect to this project became law on the 9th September, 1921. Tenders were invited on the 15th June, 1921, and the lowest one—that of Messrs. Sang Lee & Co.—amounting to \$2,766,899·70 having been accepted, an order to begin work was served on them on the 1st November, 1921. The total cost of the scheme to those entitled to participate is estimated at \$3,744,319·50.

PIERS.

The Queen Victoria Street ferry pier was practically completed by the close of the year. A contract was let in September for the construction in reinforced concrete of the Public Square Street ferry pier at Yaumati, and another contract was awarded in October for the construction—also in reinforced concrete—of the pier opposite Queen's Statue Square.

A reinforced concrete pier at Cheung Chau (Dumb-bell Island) was completed and opened to traffic.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Two small foot-bridges were constructed, one at Siu Hang near Fanling and the other at Siu Lek Un near Shatin.

“Aga” light towers were erected at the following places :—

Lam Tong Island, Channel Rocks, and Tong Ku Island.

Plans were prepared in connection with the installation of a Wireless Station at Gap Rock, machinery and plant was obtained, and the work of erecting the mast, etc., commenced.

Plans were also prepared for the construction of a water-boat dock to the East of Lai-chi-kok, but the contract for its construction had not been awarded by the end of the year under review.

Considerable progress was made with the hydrographic surveys required by the consulting engineers in connection with the report they are preparing on the development of the harbour.

The total amount expended on Public Works Extraordinary was \$3,053,525·11 and on annually recurrent works \$938,582·38.

RAILWAY.

The installation of the electric turret clock and 1-ton hour bell was completed in March and the clock started on the 22nd, since when perfect time has been kept.

Three more sidings were laid at Kowloon station as laybys, but these have not yet been connected to the signal cabin.

The old temporary station building at Hung Hom was condemned, and an operating cabin of brickwork substituted, which provides only accommodation for the point levers for the sidings, and living rooms for the staff. This station is closed as a passenger station now but the marshalling sidings remain.

A brick building was erected at the workshops for the installation of three rotary converters and the necessary switchboards, for converting high tension alternating current from the China Light & Power Co.'s supply, to direct current for the workshops motors, etc. The machinery for this purpose was taken over from the company on its vacating its premises adjacent to the locomotive yard and removing to a new site about a mile away. The rotary converters are not, however, of the most economical type and may have to be replaced.

In preparation for the building of the new overbridge to the north of Yaumati station, the embankment was widened and ballast laid later for carrying the necessary railway deviation round the site of the new bridge during construction.

Early in the year new rails were laid through Beacon Hill tunnel (2,403 yards). The time occupied by this work was 30 nights, seven lengths of 36 feet each being renewed each night.

The siding at Shatin station was connected to the loop line at the far end and now forms a second loop which has proved very useful. A low temporary wooden platform of old sleepers was erected between the main line and No. 1 loop.

At Taipo Market station a small open shelter consisting of a tiled roof on reinforced concrete columns has been provided for the convenience of consignors of live pigs and fresh fish while waiting for trains.

At Fanling station the road approach to the goods yard was completed.

Since the train service has necessitated a train being stabled each night at Lowu to form the first inward train in the morning, it has become necessary to provide siding and stabling accommodation at this point. During the year spoil was tipped to form an area for yard and sidings, and work was commenced on a single line running shed 150 feet long of brickwork with a tiled roof. The work, however, was not completed at the end of the year.

The 8-foot span bridge at mile 16½, referred to in my last report, was doubled as proposed, and no fear of further flooding at this point need be anticipated.

The road bed at mile 16 where passing over a band of clay was taken up, drained and rebalasted by night work. This place has given much trouble each year, owing to the moist nature of the subsoil during the rainy season.

Many of the steel bridges were given their periodical repainting; the steelwork of the workshop buildings was also gone over, repaired where necessary and painted.

Experiments were made with tar and asphalt surfacing on portions of the Kowloon platforms, and as these have proved successful so far, it is intended to asphalt the whole of the platforms and concourse area.

The rainfall for the year was above the average, a very large proportion occurring in the months of May and June; in fact 43½ inches, out of a total for the year of 97½ inches, fell in May; the heaviest fall per hour recorded being 3.25 inches. The railway, however, suffered very little damage, which is no small reward for previous expenditure in combating the rainstorms frequently experienced in this country.

There were two or three occasions on which typhoon blows occurred but fortunately none was serious.

A halt station was opened at Ho Mun Tin, mile 2½, where the local morning and evening trains call for the convenience of a new community which has lately settled at this point, and a temporary platform, built of old sleepers, was provided. This is not an ideal site for a station and will probably not be required when the road trams serve the neighbourhood, as is anticipated will be the case in the near future.

The gross receipts for the year were \$603,980·77, as against \$520,176·10 for 1920, an increase of \$83,804·67, and the balance after paying working expenses stands at \$75,989·71.

VI.—GOVERNMENT AND AIDED INSTITUTIONS.

(a)—HOSPITALS.

Government hospitals consist of the Civil Hospital, to which is attached an isolated Maternity Hospital, the Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, and the Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases Hospital. There is an Observation Station capable of accommodating 1,500 persons in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease on board a ship arriving in the harbour.

The Civil Hospital contains 170 beds in 21 wards. 4,815 in-patients and 27,322 out-patients were treated during 1921, as against 4,701 and 31,926 respectively in 1920. 399 cases of malarial fever were admitted, as against 243 in 1920 and 218 in 1919. The total cases of malaria for all Government hospitals and the Tung Wa Hospital shows an increase of 339 cases, as compared with the year 1920. The Maternity Hospital contains nine beds for Europeans and eight for Asiatics. 610 confinements occurred during the year, as against 496 in 1920. The Victoria Hospital at the Peak contains 41 beds, and during 1920 213 patients were under treatment there. At Kennedy Town Hospital, which contains 26 beds, 70 cases were treated in 1920, all being infectious.

(b)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The Asylum is under the direction of the Superintendent of the Civil Hospital. European and Chinese patients are separated, the European portion containing 14 beds in separate wards and the Chinese portion 16 beds. 300 patients of all races were treated during 1921 and there were eight deaths.

(c)—THE TUNG WA AND OTHER CHINESE HOSPITALS.

The Tung Wa Hospital, opened in 1872, is mainly supported by the voluntary subscriptions of Chinese, but receives an annual grant of \$8,000 from the Government. Only Chinese are treated in this institution. Various other services not appertaining to a hospital are performed by the institution, such as the free burial of the poor, the repatriation of destitutes, the maintenance of free vernacular schools and the organisation of charitable relief in emergencies. Chinese as well as European methods of treatment are employed in accordance with the wishes expressed by the patients or their friends. Over half the number are now treated by Western

methods. The hospital is managed by a committee of Chinese gentlemen annually elected, their appointment being submitted to the Governor for confirmation. It is under the supervision of a visiting physician, who is a member of the Medical Department, whilst two Chinese house surgeons, trained in Western medicine, are members of the hospital staff. There are 330 beds in the buildings and 7,211 patients were accommodated during 1921.

The Tung Wa also maintain a branch hospital for small-pox cases (Chinese only) at Kennedy Town. It contains 60 beds and during 1921 32 cases were treated.

The Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals are managed and controlled by the missionaries resident in Hongkong, agents of the London Missionary Society, and consist of the Alice Memorial Hospital opened in 1887, the Nethersole Hospital opened in 1893, the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital opened in 1904, and the Ho Miu Ling Hospital opened in 1906. The number of in-patients in 1921 was 1,681 and the expenditure \$52,252.03. The number of labours in the Maternity Hospital was 450. The Government makes a grant of \$300 per annum to these hospitals.

To avoid the complete seclusion from friends and relatives, which removal of Chinese plague patients to the Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases Hospital entailed, four district plague hospitals are now maintained by the Chinese in various parts of the Colony. These hospitals are under the management of the Chinese Public Dispensaries Committee.

The Kwong Wa Hospital for Chinese in the Kowloon peninsula was opened on the 9th October, 1911. It occupies a site having an area of three acres and provides accommodation for 210 patients. The existing buildings contain 70 beds and 4,486 patients were accommodated during 1921. The collection of subscriptions and the supervision of the building were undertaken by a special committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs. The hospital receives a grant of \$8,500 per annum from the Government.

As will be noticed from the remarks made under the heading Education, the Hongkong University is also an aided institution.

VII.—INSTITUTIONS NOT SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT.

One of the most important institutions in the Colony not supported by the Government is the Matilda Hospital, which stands on a commanding site of nearly three acres at Mount Kellet in the Hill District. An account of this hospital will be found in the report for 1917.

Among institutions recognised and encouraged, but not to any considerable extent supported by Government, may be mentioned the Pó Leung Kuk, the Eyre Refuge, the City Hall, and the Chinese public dispensaries.

The Pó Leung Kuk is a Chinese Society founded in 1878 for the suppression of kidnapping and traffic in human beings. It was incorporated in 1893 and is presided over by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs and not more than nine directors nominated by the Governor.

The actual management is entrusted to a committee elected annually by the members of the society. The society's buildings have been declared a Refuge under the Women and Girls Protection Ordinance, and almost all women and girls detained by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs under that Ordinance are sent to the Pó Leung Kuk. During 1921 the number of persons admitted was 355 and at the close of year 42 remained under the care of the society. The inmates are under the immediate charge of a Chinese matron, and instruction is given them by the matron and a Chinese teacher in elementary subjects and in needlework.

The Eyre Diocesan Refuge is an institution under mission auspices, founded for rescue work among the Chinese. It was housed in the Belilios Reformatory up to the outbreak of war, but the work is at present carried on at Kowloon City. A small grant is made by the Government.

The City Hall receives an annual grant of \$1,200 from Government. It contains a theatre, some large rooms which are used for balls, meetings, concerts, etc., a museum in which are some very fair specimens and a large reference and lending library, to which new volumes are added from time to time, as funds will allow. The building was erected in 1866-9 by subscription.

Small grants are also given to the Italian Convent, the French Convent (both of which take in and tend abandoned or sick infants), the West Point Orphanage, the Seamen's Hospital, and other charitable institutions.

The Chinese Public Dispensaries are institutions maintained in order to provide the Chinese with the services of doctors, whose certificates will be accepted by the Registrar of Deaths, and with the services of interpreters, who can assist the inmates of houses, where a case of infectious disease has occurred. Coolies are engaged and ambulances and dead vans provided in order to remove cases of infectious disease to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and dead bodies to the mortuary. The dispensaries receive sick infants and send them to one or other of the convents and arrange for the burial of dead infants. Free advice and medicine are given and patients are attended at their houses. There are eight dispensaries in existence. The total cost of maintenance was \$39,505 for the year 1920. The Government makes an annual grant of \$7,000, and the rest of the cost is defrayed by voluntary subscription. The Dispensaries are conducted by committees under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

VIII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(a)—POPULATION.

The civil population of the Colony, according to the census taken on April 24th, 1921, was 625,166, of whom 83,163 reside in the New Territories and in New Kowloon; at the census taken in 1911 it was 456,739 with 104,287 as the figure for the New Territories and New Kowloon. The estimated total population at the middle of the year under review was 686,680, but this includes the New Territories; and as the birth and death figures given below do not include those from

this area (with the exception of New Kowloon), the population for the purposes of calculating these rates is estimated at 585,880, of whom 14,100 were non-Chinese.

The distribution of population estimated to the middle of 1921 was as follows :—

Non-Chinese Civil Community	..	..	..	..	14,100
Chinese Population—					
City of Victoria (including Peak)	..	..	..	360,000	
Villages of Hongkong	..	..	..	18,360	
Kowloon (including New Kowloon)	..	..	..	120,000	
New Territories	..	..	..	100,800	
Population afloat	..	..	..	73,420	
Total Chinese Population	..	..	..		672,580
Total Civil Population	..	..	..	..	686,680

(b)—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The activity in building operations, which has been so noticeable a feature since 1912, has not abated, and the demand for housing accommodation by the Chinese continued to be greatly in excess of the supply, as many of those who fled with their families to Hongkong during 1911, 1912, and 1913 elected to remain in the Colony.

The birth-rate for the year was 5·68* per 1,000 among the Chinese community and 25·88 per 1,000 among the non-Chinese community, as compared with 3·96 and 19·78 for 1920.

The death-rate for the year was 20·29 per 1,000 among the Chinese community and 18·08 among the non-Chinese civil community, as compared with 22·78 and 17·9 for 1920.

The number of deaths from malaria (332) was the same as for 1920. The deaths of Chinese from this cause in the City of Victoria numbered 142 out of a population of 360,000, or a rate of 0·39 per 1,000 per annum.

The deaths from plague numbered 130 as compared with 120 in 1920.

Small-pox deaths numbered 162; all but two were Chinese.

There were 3,832 deaths from respiratory diseases other than pulmonary tuberculosis, as compared with 3,834 in 1920, and 80 of these were among the non-Chinese community. Pulmonary tuberculosis claimed 1,318 Chinese and 25 non-Chinese victims, whilst other forms of tuberculosis represent an additional 576 deaths, making a total of 1,894, or 15·9 per cent. of the total deaths among the community.

Beri-beri was responsible for 526 deaths, as compared with 361 during 1920 and 555 in 1919. During the past few years circulars have been distributed to all large employers of coolie labour calling their attention to the fact that beri-beri is produced by the consumption of white rice as the staple article of diet without a sufficiency of other foods, and advising that beans should be supplied with the rice, when fresh meat or fresh fish cannot be afforded.

* This figure is wholly misleading, as it is impossible to register more than a portion of the births.

(c)—CLIMATE.

The principal features of the weather in 1921 were :—

- (a) Heavy rainfall from April 27th to July 6th, during which period 59 inches of rain fell on 59 days ; and a drought from September 9th to the end of the year, when only 1 inch of rain fell.
- (b) Abnormally low wind velocity in March, increasing gradually to normal in July.

Barometric pressure was considerably above normal in January, July and October, and considerably below in May, June and August. The mean pressure for the year at station level was 29·848 ins., as against 29·814 ins. in 1920 and 29·843 ins. for the past 38 years. The highest pressure was 30·323 ins. on January 14th, as against 30·374 ins. in 1920 and 30·509 ins. for the past 38 years. The lowest pressure was 29·319 ins. on July 24th, as against 29·208 ins. in 1920 and 28·735 ins. for the past 38 years.

The temperature of the air was moderately above normal in February, March, April, August and December and moderately below in January. The mean temperature for the year was 72°·2, as against 72°·0 in 1920 and 71°·8 for the past 38 years. The highest temperature was 92°·2 on August 22nd as against 93°·1 in 1920 and 97°·0 for the past 38 years. The lowest temperature was 44°·0 on February 4th, as against 45°·1 in 1920 and 32°·0 for the past 38 years.

The rainfall was very considerably above normal in May, and moderately above normal in March, August and September. It was considerably below normal in April, October, November and December. The total for the year was 97·340 ins., as against 107·880 ins. in 1920 and 84·620 ins. for the past 38 years. The greatest fall in one civil day was 6·060 ins. on September 3rd and the greatest in one hour was 3·250 ins. between 1.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. on May 31st.

The wind velocity was considerably below normal in January, March, April, May and October. In July it was normal and in the remaining months it was slightly below normal. The mean velocity for the year was 10·7 m.p.h., as against 12·0 m.p.h. in 1920 and 12·7 m.p.h. for the past 38 years. The maximum velocity for one hour as recorded by the Beckley Anemograph was 51 miles at 11 a.m. on July 24th, as against 51 miles in 1920 and 108 for the past 38 years. The maximum squall velocity, as recorded by the Dines-Baxendell Anemograph, was at the rate of 69 m.p.h. at 5 h. 53 m. a.m. on September 3rd, as against 61 m.p.h. in 1920 and 105 m.p.h. for the past 12 years.

The climate of Hongkong is similar in its broad features to that of Kowloon and the New Territories, but at the higher levels, from 1,400 to 1,800 feet above sea level the temperature is usually from 3° to 8° lower than at the Observatory, Kowloon. The humidity is usually greater than in Kowloon and approaches saturation for several days at a time during March and April when mist is very prevalent. In summer the city of Victoria, and the rising terraces behind it, derive little or no benefit from the S.W. monsoon, being sheltered by steep hills from S.E. to S.W. In winter it is exposed to the N.E. monsoon which occasionally blows along the harbour through Lyemun Pass with considerable violence. On the other hand the S.W. side of the Island is protected from the N.E. monsoon in winter and enjoys the benefit of the S.W. monsoon in summer.

IX.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The total revenue from the Postal Service in 1921 amounted to \$644,157·54, being \$118,035·46 more than that collected in 1920. The net expenditure amounted to \$261,077·84. The balance of revenue over expenditure amounted to \$383,079·70.

The revenue collected in 1921 from radio-telegrams amounted to \$19,082·98, being \$4,491·25 more than that collected in 1920. Advices of vessels signalled at the lighthouses yielded \$670·60, and semaphore messages \$3·30, making a total of \$19,756·88 for the telegraph service. The expenditure amounted to \$45,592·19. The number of radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 2,235 consisting of 30,239 words, and 6,182 received consisting of 82,513 words.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.'s contract mail service between the United Kingdom and the Far East was resumed with the despatch of the s.s. "Nellore" from Hongkong on the 21st December, 1921.

A. G. M. FLETCHER,

Colonial Secretary.

8th August, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	"
1123	British Guiana	"
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	"
1137	Ceylon	"
1138	Swaziland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1140.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1101.)



PRINTED IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

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1922.

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REPORT ON THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1921.

Historical and Geographical Notes.

The Straits Settlements, comprising Singapore, Penang and Malacca, were transferred from the control of the Indian Government to that of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st April, 1867, by an Order in Council, issued under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament (29 and 30 Vict. c. 115).

SITUATION AND AREA.

SINGAPORE.

Singapore is an island about 27 miles long by 14 wide, containing an area of 217 square miles, situated at the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula, from which it is separated by a narrow strait about three-quarters of a mile in width. There are a number of small islands adjacent to it which form part of the Settlement, which now comprises also Christmas Island, and the Cocos Islands.

The seat of Government is the town of Singapore, at the southern point of the island, in latitude $1^{\circ} 17'$ north, and longitude $103^{\circ} 50'$ east.

PENANG.

Penang is an island about 15 miles long and 9 broad, containing an area of 108 square miles, situated off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula in 5° north latitude, and at the northern extremity or entrance to the Straits of Malacca. On the opposite shore of the mainland, from which the island is separated by a strait from 2 to 10 miles broad, is Province Wellesley, a strip of territory forming part of the Settlement, averaging 8 miles in width, and extending 45 miles along the coast, including 10 miles of territory to the south of the Krian river (*vide infra*), the whole containing an area of 280 square miles.

The chief town is George Town, in $5^{\circ} 24'$ north latitude, and $100^{\circ} 21'$ east longitude.

MALACCA.

Malacca is situated on the western coast of the peninsula between Singapore and Penang, about 110 miles from the former and 240 from the latter, and consists of a strip of territory about 42 miles in length, and from 8 to 25 miles in breadth, containing an area of 720 square miles. The town, called Malacca, is in $2^{\circ} 10'$ north latitude, and $102^{\circ} 14'$ east longitude.

THE DINDINGS.

The Dindings, area about 183 square miles, include the island of Pangkor and a strip of territory opposite on the mainland, about 80 miles from Penang, in $4^{\circ} 15'$ north latitude, and $100^{\circ} 35'$ east longitude. Lumut, the headquarters on the mainland, possesses a fine harbour with deep anchorage, and arrangements have been made for coasting steamers to call regularly.

COCOS-KEELING ISLANDS.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands, which were declared a British possession in 1857, were placed, by Letters Patent of 13th October, 1878, under the control of the Governor of Ceylon, and by Letters Patent dated the 1st of February, 1886, under the Governor of the Straits Settlements. In 1903 they were annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore. The islands lie between latitude $11^{\circ} 50'$ to $12^{\circ} 45'$ south, longitude $96^{\circ} 50'$ east, 700 miles south-west of Batavia. The largest is 5 miles by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. There are large coconut plantations, and copra, oil, and nuts are exported. In 1902 a station on the Cape-Australia cable route was established on Direction Island, in the north-eastern part of the group. The population numbers about 795.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

Christmas Island, situated in the Indian Ocean, 190 miles south of Java, latitude $10^{\circ} 30'$ south, longitude $105^{\circ} 40'$ east, was annexed in June, 1888, and placed under the administration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements by Letters Patent of 8th January, 1889. In 1900 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

The island, which is densely wooded, has an area of about 62 square miles. In shape it is a rough parallelogram

with deeply indented sides, its greatest length being about 12 miles, and its greatest breadth about 9 miles. The inhabitants, who number about 1,100, are all, with the exception of the District Officer and his staff, employés of the Christmas Island Phosphate Company, which was formed in 1897 to work the extensive deposits of phosphate of lime, to which the island owes its importance.

The total area of the Colony with these dependencies is about 1,600 square miles.

By Letters Patent issued at the end of 1906, provision was made for the incorporation of the Colony of Labuan in that of the Straits Settlements. The provision came into effect from the 1st of January, 1907. An account of Labuan will be found below.

HISTORY.

MALACCA.

Malacca, said to have been founded by fugitives from the sack of Singapore, and known as an important independent State from early in the fifteenth century, is one of the oldest European Settlements in the East, having been captured by the Portuguese under ALBUQUERQUE in 1511, and held by them till 1641, when the Dutch, after frequent attempts, succeeded in driving them out. The Settlement remained in the possession of the Dutch till 1795, when it was taken by the English, who held it till 1818. It was then restored to Holland, but was again transferred to British rule as a consequence of the Treaty of London (17th March, 1824), being exchanged for the British Settlements in Sumatra.

When Malacca was captured by the Portuguese in 1511, it was one of the grand entrepôts for the commerce of the East, but as the Portuguese pushed their operations further to the east, in the archipelago and neighbouring countries, the trade of Malacca gradually declined and it ceased to be of consequence as a collecting centre, except for the trade of the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. This trade it retained under Dutch rule till the establishment of Penang in 1786. In a few years from that date its trade almost ceased, and it became, what it has ever since been, a place of little commercial importance, but possessing great agricultural resources. The trade of the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra passed to Penang, which also carried on a large

traffic with China, Siam, Borneo, the Celebes, and other places in the archipelago not under Dutch control; but no sooner was Singapore established than Penang in its turn had to yield the first place to Singapore, and came to depend chiefly on the local trade. At first unimportant, that trade has assumed enormous proportions, owing to the development of the rich tin areas and rubber-bearing lands of the Malay Peninsula.

PENANG.

Penang, or Prince of Wales' Island, was the first British Settlement in the Malay Peninsula, having been ceded to the East India Company by the Raja of Kedah in 1786, with the proviso that the sum of 6,000 dollars should be paid annually to the Raja of Kedah so long as the British occupied the island. In 1800, in consequence of the prevalence of piracy, a strip of the coast of the mainland, now called Province Wellesley, was acquired from the Raja, the annual payment being in return increased to \$10,000. This has been subsequently enlarged from time to time, until it now extends from the Muda River to 10 miles south of the Krian River, a distance of 45 miles, containing in all 280 square miles. This province is in a high state of cultivation, the chief articles cultivated being padi, coconuts, and rubber. In 1805 Penang was made a separate Presidency, of equal rank with Madras and Bombay. In 1826 Singapore and Malacca were incorporated with it under one government, Penang still remaining the seat of government. In 1836 the seat of government was transferred to Singapore.

The island of Pangkor and the Sembilan Islands were ceded by Perak in 1826, with a view to the suppression of piracy, but no use was made of the cession at the time. In 1874 the cession of these islands was confirmed by the Treaty of Pangkor, by which a strip of territory in the mainland opposite also became British. The whole now forms, under the name of the Dindings Territory, an outlying portion of the Settlement of Penang.

SINGAPORE.

The original city of Singapore is said to have been founded by immigrants from Sumatra. It rose into prominence in the fourteenth century. Its greatness came to a sudden end in 1377, when it was sacked and destroyed by the Javanese, and thenceforth the island was scarcely

inhabited until Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES took possession of it in 1819, by virtue of a treaty with the Johore princes. The new Settlement was at first subordinate to Bencoolen (Fort Marlborough) in Sumatra, but in 1823 it was placed under the Government of Bengal; in 1826 it was, as above stated, united with Penang and Malacca, under the Governor and Council of the Incorporated Settlements.

LABUAN.

The Island of Labuan is situated on the north-west coast of Borneo, in $5^{\circ} 16'$ North latitude, and $115^{\circ} 15'$ East longitude. Its area is 28.6 square miles. It is distant from the coast, at the nearest point, about six miles; from Brunei, the capital of the Protected State of that name, about forty miles; and from Singapore 725 miles, or three days' steam.

The average annual rainfall is about 168 inches, and the thermometer ranges from 71° to 93° .

An attempt was made by the East India Company's servants, who were expelled from Balambangan by Sulu pirates in 1775, to establish a trading station in Labuan, but the project was soon abandoned, and for practical purposes the history of the island begins with its cession to Great Britain in 1846 by the Sultan of Brunei. It was then uninhabited. The reason for the cession, given in the treaty, by which the island was handed over to Great Britain, was that it was "desirable that British ships shall have some port where they may careen and refit, and deposit such stores and merchandise as shall be necessary for the carrying on of the trade with the dominions of Brunei", and the consideration given by Great Britain was an undertaking to suppress piracy and protect lawful trade.

The island was at first occupied only as a naval station under the control of a naval officer, and the formal establishment of a Crown Colony was deferred until 1848. From that date until the end of 1889, Labuan was governed as a separate Colony. Until 1869 it was assisted by grants-in-aid from the Imperial Exchequer, but this help was then withdrawn, and the Colony supported itself, though with difficulty, for the next twenty years. In 1889, the financial troubles came to a head, and, as it was thought that the island could be more economically governed in connection with the territories of the British North Borneo Company, the administration was entrusted, from the 1st January, 1890, to the care of the Company, whose principal representative in Borneo was given a commission as Governor of Labuan. This arrangement was terminated at the end of

1905, when Sir J. ANDERSON, Governor of the Straits Settlements, was appointed also Governor of Labuan, the island still remaining a separate Colony. On the 1st of January, 1907, Labuan was annexed to the Straits Settlements, and declared part of the Settlement of Singapore. On the 1st of December, 1912, the island was constituted a separate Settlement.

Labuan has a fine port (Victoria Harbour), perfectly safe, and easy of access. Vessels drawing 23 feet can go alongside the outside jetty (not at present in use), and vessels drawing 15 feet alongside the coaling jetties.

It is a market for much of the produce of the neighbouring coasts of Borneo and the Sulu Archipelago, such as sago, beeswax, edible birds' nests, camphor, gutta-percha, indiarubber, rattans, tortoise-shell, and beche-de mer, which are forwarded by the Labuan traders to Singapore. Cattle and goats are reared, and 2,000 acres are estimated to be under cultivation. There are sago factories in the island, where the raw material received from the coast is converted into sago flour, which is exported to Singapore.

There is a branch of the Government Post Office Savings Bank in Labuan, but no other bank. The currency is Straits dollars and Straits subsidiary coins. Straits notes are also available in Labuan.

The inhabitants are chiefly Malays and other natives from Brunei, and Chinese, the latter being mostly petty traders.

The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company has a station on the island connected by cable with Singapore, Hongkong and North Borneo. The nearest point in telegraphic communication with Europe is Singapore.

The population at the 1921 Census was 5,909.

I.—Finances.

The revenue for the year 1921 amounted to \$39,545,735 exceeding the estimates by \$2,359,972, whilst the expenditure was \$35,430,899, being \$5,114,641 less than the estimate.

The figure represents a fall in revenue, as compared with 1920, of \$2,923,885, but expenditure was also reduced by \$3,829,419, with the result that the excess of revenue over expenditure was \$4,114,836, as compared with \$3,209,302 in 1920.

The actual figures for 1920 and 1921 are as follows:—

(i).—REVENUE.

	1920.	1921.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Port, Harbour, Wharf and Light Dues ...	1,610	1,822	212	...
2. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ...	34,211,116	29,105,291	...	5,105,825
3. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid ...	880,844	931,096	50,252	...
4. Posts and Telegraphs ...	1,241,071	1,257,289	16,218	...
5. Rents on Govt. Property	1,232,813	1,396,602	163,789	...
6. Interest ...	975,196	1,988,163	1,012,967	...
7. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,812,970	4,738,350	2,925,380	...
	\$40,355,620	39,418,613	4,168,818	5,105,825
8. Land Sales...	2,114,000	127,122	...	1,986,878
TOTAL ...	\$42,469,620	39,545,735	4,168,818	7,092,703
		Net Decrease ...	\$2,923,885	

The decrease is mainly due to a fall of \$4,746,516 in opium revenue.

Stamp duties fell by \$778,173, but there was a small increase of \$12,642 in Estate duty.

The marked increase in the interest item is due to an increase in Interest on Loans and Advances by \$1,079,739, which in its turn, was mainly due to the payment of \$900,000 by the Government of the Federated Malay States on account of interest on its "Rice Debt".

The amount of tax collected under the Income Tax Ordinance, 1921, was about \$5,300,000. Owing to the depression in trade the collections were less than under the 1920 Ordinance.

Among excesses of Revenue over the Estimates were:—

	\$
Interest ...	1,259,433
Income Tax ...	969,060
Liquors ...	230,285
Tobacco Duties ...	354,313
Fees of Courts, etc. ...	123,521
Premia on Special Sales of Town Lands ...	14,983
Telok Ayer Reclamation Rents (unestimated) ...	270,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	4,662,497

(ii).—EXPENDITURE.

	1920.	1921.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	—
1. Charge on account of the Public Debt ...	37,083	37,083	...	...
2. Pensions ...	679,920	755,963	76,043	...
3. Charitable Allowances ...	14,483	17,946	3,463	...
4. The Governor ...	171,445	137,524	...	33,921
5. Civil Service ...	...	519,064	519,064	...
6. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillors and Resident ...	371,123	212,350	...	158,773
7. Government Printing Office ...	278,666	226,635	...	52,031
8. Land and District Offices ...	344,605	314,413	...	30,192
9. Forests ...	34,628	53,187	18,559	...
10. Chinese and Indian Immigrants' Protection ...	109,819	103,346	...	6,473
11. Treasury ...	211,719	220,478	8,759	...
12. Audit ...	75,243	77,460	2,217	...
13. Director of External Audit ...	4,912	...	...	4,912
14. Marine ...	612,715	737,774	125,059	...
15. Legal ...	486,977	427,907	...	59,070
16. Police ...	1,408,922	2,407,296	998,374	...
17. Prisons ...	464,383	465,017	634	...
18. Medical ...	465,380	570,576	105,196	...
19. Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	1,085,784	1,411,802	326,018	...
20. Veterinary ...	49,475	52,148	2,673	...
21. Education ...	562,086	911,121	349,035	...
22. Ecclesiastical ...	23,340	26,675	3,335	...
23. Transport ...	211,162	305,586	94,424	...
24. Military Expenditure ...	3,171,065	5,764,448	2,593,383	...
25. Miscellaneous Services ...	23,501,948	12,071,385	...	11,430,563
26. Post Office ...	881,517	1,808,170	926,653	...
27. Government Monopolies ...	590,825	687,275	96,450	...
28. Agricultural Department ...	8,550	106,225	97,675	...
29. Botanical Gardens ...	73,911	96,918	23,007	...
30. Raffles Museum and Library ...	35,946	46,604	10,658	...
31. Income Tax ...	...	38,829	38,829	...
32. Public Works Department ...	354,808	394,360	39,552	...
33. Survey Department ...	187,066	240,346	53,280	...
34. Public Works, Recurrent ...	576,148	639,153	63,005	...
35. Public Works, Extraordinary ...	1,465,890	3,531,938	2,066,048	...
Director of Supplies, S. S. and F. M. S. ...	...	13,897	13,897	...
War Expenditure ...	708,774	...	...	708,774
TOTAL ...	\$39,260,318	35,430,899	8,655,290	12,484,709
		Net Decrease	...	\$3,829,419

The main heads under which there has been increase in Expenditure are:—

	<i>Increase.</i>
	\$
Salaries and Allowances ...	2,371,869
Salaries of Acting Officers ...	149,793
Military Expenditure ...	2,593,383
Public Works Extraordinary ...	2,066,048
	<hr/>
	\$7,181,093

and the main heads under which expenditure has decreased are:—

	<i>Decrease.</i>
	\$
Loss on rice ...	5,785,777
Contributions to Imperial War Funds ...	6,329,079
	<hr/>
	\$12,114,856

As regards the increase in Salaries and Allowances, there was a decrease in allowances from \$2,633,567 in 1920 to \$2,058,042 in 1921, a difference of \$575,525, so the increase in salaries must be put at \$2,947,394.

The decrease in allowances was due to a reduction in rates of allowance as from 1st June, 1921. The increase in salaries was partly due to further revisions of salary of some of the officers in certain Departments, and partly to the fact that some part of the arrears of 1919 and 1920 salaries, arising out of revisions, were not paid until 1921. All arrears in connection with various revisions have not even yet been paid.

The most noticeable increases of Expenditure on Personal Emoluments are:—

	\$
Police ...	944,660
Post Office ...	533,654
Civil Service (shown for the first time under a separate head)	519,064
Education ...	248,646
Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	155,092
Medical ...	75,747
Government Monopolies ...	111,150
	<hr/>
	\$2,588,013

The increase in salaries of acting officers may be attributed partly to improved facilities for granting officers leave, and partly to revisions of salary.

The increase in Military Expenditure is mainly due to the increased amount paid on account of Defence Contribution. The amount so paid is subject to adjustment when the cost of the garrison for 1921 is known.

Exclusive of Defence Contribution and of Special Expenditure connected with the war, the following table will show the Colony's expenditure for the last seven years and the portion of it which has gone in Public Works Extraordinary:—

		<i>Total Expenditure.</i>	<i>Public Works Extraordinary.</i>
		—	—
		\$	\$
1915	...	7,207,478	676,463
1916	...	6,514,527	318,788
1917	...	6,774,048	208,908
1918	...	8,687,204	458,257
1919	...	29,111,433	892,571
1920	...	35,452,052	1,465,890
1921	...	29,807,490	3,531,938

Although there is quite a noticeable fall in expenditure, the advance upon 1918 figures is marked.

The difference of 21 millions is accounted for mainly under the 3 heads:—Personal Emoluments 7 millions. Miscellaneous Services 9 millions, Public Works Extraordinary 3 millions.

As regards Personal Emoluments, the cost of all Establishments has increased, but the most noticeable are:—

Police $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions, Medical and Hospitals $\frac{1}{2}$ million, Miscellaneous Services (in which Head of Estimates all

temporary allowances are included) $2\frac{3}{4}$ millions. This leaves an increase of $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions to be divided up amongst other departments.

Miscellaneous Services:—The chief items under Other Charges are:—

			\$
Loss on rice	...	...	3,674,423
Contributions to Rural Boards			1,286,093
Contributions to Municipalities			500,000
Depreciation in investments of the Treasury and the Cur- rency Commissioners	...	...	600,157
Johore Causeway	...	...	256,318
Purchase of Land	...	...	707,451
			<hr/>
			\$7,024,442
			<hr/>

The principal savings on the Expenditure Estimates were in respect of Public Works Extraordinary \$6,595,713, Post Office \$778,851, Military Expenditure \$1,436,304, Marine \$1,419,319, Civil Service \$258,061 and Education \$216,399.

The following comparative statement shows the revenue and the expenditure of the Colony for the past seven years:—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
		—	—
		\$	\$
1915	...	14,131,691	10,196,560
1916	...	17,325,695	11,046,353
1917	...	19,672,104	11,369,392
1918	...	23,262,015	15,966,145
1919	...	34,108,465	34,901,233
1920	...	42,469,620	39,260,318
1921	...	39,545,735	35,430,899

(iii).—STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1921, were as follows:—

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
		\$			\$
Deposits ...	...	15,279,799	Indian Agency Account ...	...	374,999
			Investments ...	...	20,571,974
Suspense (a) ...	...	4,702,287	Advances ...	...	783,497
			Imprests ...	...	64,089
Drafts and Remittances ...		31,057	Johore Foodstuffs Account		8,558
Loans:—			Loans:—		
Straits Settlements 7% Loan 1921-1926 ...	...	20,216,300	Municipalities ...	...	5,311,155
			Kelantan Government ...	...	320,000
			Singapore Harbour Board ...	...	3,242,957
Cash in transit ...	...	10 382	Penang Harbour Board		612,643
			Ho Hong Steamship Co.		300,000
Excess of Assets over Liabilities (b) (c) ...	...	48,990,868	Federated Malay States Government Advances at call ...	...	2,500,000
			Federated Malay States Government Rice Account ...	...	18,788,847
			Johore Government Re- Loan of Straits Settle- ments 1921 Loan ...	...	800,000
			Federated Malay States Government Re-Loan of Straits Settlements 1921 Loan ...	...	15,000,000
			Municipality Singapore Re-Loan of Straits Settlements 1921 Loan		3,500,000
			Cash ...	...	17,051,974
TOTAL ...		\$89,230,693	TOTAL ...		\$89,230,693

(iv).—PUBLIC DEBT.

The indebtedness of the Colony in respect of the loan raised by the issue of 3½ per cent Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provisions of Ordinance IV of 1907 amounted, on the 31st December, 1921, to £6,913,352, of which the equivalent in local currency is \$59,257,302.

(a) Includes Currency Commissioners \$4,422,249.

(b) The excess of the assets over the liabilities increased during the year by \$4,114,836.

(c) The available surplus was some \$19½ millions. Of the 29½ millions in loans and advances, \$6 millions was repaid by the Federated Malay States in January, 1922, and the cash position then improved accordingly.

The expenditure upon service in respect of which this loan was raised stands as follows:—

	\$
Singapore Harbour Board ...	47,720,526
Penang Harbour Board ...	2,093,974
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore ...	4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang ...	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works ...	320,137
Total ...	\$55,869,097
Loan Expenses and Cost of Conversion (1907 Loan) less interest received ...	3,388,205
Total ...	\$59,257,302

The charge on account of interest on and expenses of this loan was \$2,079,383 in 1921. This charge is, however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and the other bodies to whom portions of the loan have been allotted.

The indebtedness of the Colony under the 5½ per cent War Loan, 1918 stands at \$28,655,700, under the 5½ per cent Conversion Loan, 1919 at \$36,718,200, and under the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States Victory Loan, 1920 at \$15,074,300. The principal and interest on all these three loans is payable by His Majesty's Government.

The Straits Settlements 7 per cent Loan was floated on the 26th April, 1921, and closed on the 15th December, 1921. Subscriptions amounted to \$20,216,300. The bonds are registered and bearer bonds at 7 per cent per annum redeemable at par on the 1st May, 1926. The proceeds of this loan were lent to the following Governments and Municipalities:—

	\$
Federated Malay States Government ...	15,000,000
Johore Government ...	800 000
Singapore Municipality ...	3,500,000
Penang Municipality ...	916,300
Total ...	\$20,216,300

Ordinance 24 of 1921 authorised the issue of a loan to produce £10 million sterling, the proceeds to be lent to the Federated Malay States Government. A first instalment of this loan amounting to £5,155,000 was issued in London on the 8th December, 1921, the final instalment of subscriptions to this issue being payable on 23rd January, 1922.

(v).—EXCHANGE.

The following Banks have Establishments in the Colony:—

- The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
- „ Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.
- „ Mercantile Bank of India, Limited.
- „ Netherlands Trading Society. (Nederlandsch Handel Maatschappij).
- „ Banque de l'Indo-Chine.
- „ International Banking Corporation.
- „ Netherlands India Commercial Bank. (Nederlandsch Indische Handelsbank).
- „ Sze Hai Tong Banking and Insurance Company. Limited.
- „ Bank of Taiwan, Limited.
- „ Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited.
- „ Chinese Commercial Bank, Limited.
- „ Bank of Communications.
- „ Ho Hong Bank, Limited.
- „ Banque Industrielle de Chine.
- „ China and Southern Bank, Limited.
- „ Oversea Chinese Bank, Limited.
- „ Asia Banking Corporation.
- „ Lee Wah Bank, Limited.
- „ Bank Voor Indie.

[During the year under report, the demand rate (Bank opening rates only) ranged between 2/4 and 2/3 .]

(vi).—CURRENCY.

Excluding subsidiary coins, the Currency of the Colony in circulation in the Currency Area at the end of the year consisted of \$84,596,806.90 in currency notes and \$6,476,418.50 in dollars and half-dollars, while there were still in circulation bank notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China to the value of \$149,951.

At the beginning of the year 1921 the currency notes in circulation amounted in value to \$101,587,186.80. The demand for Sterling which started in March, 1920, continued with little abatement until July, 1921, and the Currency contracted in consequence of Sterling Remittances to London being made through the Currency Commissioners.

The nett result shows that the Commissioners sold Sterling to the extent of £1,975,000 during the year under review, and this reduced the currency notes in circulation to \$84,596,806.90 at the end of 1921.

The Coin Reserve held by the Commissioners at the end of the year against the note circulation amounted to \$37,407,345.74 consisting of £328,251 in gold and \$8,629,793.18 in silver in the Colony and £3,029,130-2-8 in gold in London.

The investments held by the Commissioners on account of the Note Guarantee and Depreciation Funds were worth, at cash bargain or minimum prices, at the end of the year, \$50,425,384.46, the cost price of those investments being \$60,086,106.28.

The decrease in value compared with original cost is due to the general depreciation of all securities.

The Note Guarantee Fund at the end of the year was worth \$89,971,695.63 (Coin portion \$37,407,345.74, Investment portion \$50,425,384.46 and on deposit with the Government pending investment \$2,138,955.43), while the Gold Standard Reserve Fund at the same date was worth \$13,936,472.93. The total of the funds controlled by the Commissioners was, therefore, \$103,908,168.56 or \$19,311,361.66 more than the total note circulation at the end of the year.

The demand for small change slackened during the year with the result that the subsidiary silver coins and notes in circulation decreased by \$428,363 and \$942,556.90 respectively. The notes in circulation of a face value less than \$1 stood at the end of 1921 as follows:—

	\$	c.
10-cent notes printed in United Kingdom	1,872,200	00
10-cent notes printed locally ...	513,502	90
25-cent notes printed locally ...	36,575	00
Total ...	\$2,422,277	90

This shows very considerable contraction from the total of \$3,364,834.80 at the end of 1920.

The number of notes destroyed during the year totalled 8,623,555 against 4,118,343 in 1920, that is to say the number cancelled more than doubled that of the previous year. This is satisfactory but the notes presented for cancellation were, at the same time, far in excess of the number destroyed.

Ten-cent notes accounted for 6,500,000 of the number destroyed, but it must be remembered that the processes of destruction of these subsidiary notes are less exhaustive than in the case of the higher denominations.

At the beginning of the year the total number of notes awaiting destruction was 5,198,581, and further 15,686,163 were presented during the year, making a total of 20,884,744 for destruction. The total number destroyed was 8,623,555 as stated in the preceding paragraph, and the balance remaining for destruction at the end of the year was consequently 12,261,189 of which number 9,763,319 represented notes of a face value of less than one dollar.

(v).—ENEMY PROPERTY.

The balance to the credit of the Custodian of Enemy Property at the end of the year was \$13,808,737.88 of which \$13,682,881.59 was invested. In addition \$210,076 was specially invested for the separate accounts of certain Enemies and does not appear in either of the above figures.

A Local Clearing Office was formally established on the passing of the Local Clearing Office Ordinance No. 18 of 1920 in July, 1920, but work actually commenced beforehand in June, 1920.

Claims from Germans against British Nationals said to be resident in the Colony received through the Central Clearing Office, London, amounted to \$910,060.14 of which claims to the value of \$96,721.76 were admitted and \$550,802.03 contested up to the 31st December, 1921; the balance were still under investigation.

Claims from British Nationals resident in the Colony against Germans forwarded to the Central Clearing Office, London, amounted to \$173,756.91. Of which \$15,368.24 were admitted by the German Clearing Office and \$145,293.57 contested, the balance being under investigation.

Between the date when the office was opened and the end of 1921, the Local Clearing Office collected \$147,056.62 from British Nationals in respect of German claims and paid out \$11,606.29 to British Nationals in respect of their claims against German Nationals. The Controller's investment on 31st December, 1921, stood at \$32,000.

There were no claims received from or against Austrian or Hungarian Nationals up to the end of the year 1921.

II.—Shipping and Trade, Agriculture, Forests and Land.

(a) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage of merchant vessels arriving and departing was 25,055,798 as compared with 24,027,912 in 1920.

NATIONALITY.	1920.				19 1.				Increase in 1921 as compared with 1920.	Decrease in 1921 as compared with 1920.
	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Christmas Island and Labuan.	Total tonnage (Entered and Cleared).	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Christmas Island and Labuan.	Total tonnage (Entered and Cleared).
American	1,303,796	350,058	...	1,904	1,655,758	1,151,746	205,046	...	...	1,356,792
British	2,622	1,384	...	...	4,006	...	...	...	...	...
Chinese	35,898	...	...	...	35,898	11,138	...	...	...	11,138
Dutch	7,940,852	4,601,655	453,550	143,268	13,139,325	8,153,028	4,769,644	385,014	186,369	13,494,055
French	47,594	3,286	...	...	50,880	88,838	7,520	...	...	96,358
German	280,619	104,788	...	...	385,407	273,470	96,420	...	...	369,890
Indian	2,288,478	432,118	...	4,686	2,725,282	2,873,526	541,958	564	1,150	3,417,198
Japanese	838,755	28,694	204	...	867,653	928,516	124,252	...	...	1,052,768
Korean	11,484	...	...	...	11,484	4,176	...	...	...	4,176
Malayan	13,934	...	...	...	13,934	...	...	...	...	...
Portuguese	166,296	147,302	...	...	313,598	191,566	93,942	...	...	285,508
Russian	78,334	...	...	...	78,334	11,322	...	...	...	11,322
Spanish	3,541,520	455,762	98,490	62,690	4,158,462	3,584,708	507,680	124,670	47,806	4,264,864
Siam	89,364	20,340	...	...	109,704	178,496	16,862	...	...	195,358
Singapore	31,354	...	...	...	31,354	19,884	...	...	...	19,884
Swedish	55,508	...	...	...	55,508	...	...	...	...	...
Swiss	79,504	258	...	346	80,108	69,995	...	...	1,155	71,150
Turkish	193,837	4,190	...	12,128	210,155	253,093	3,808	...	...	256,901
United States	56,370	...	...	...	56,370	62,942	...	...	...	62,942
Various	44,692	...	...	...	44,692	62,820	...	...	8,582	71,402
Other	...	...	...	...	...	14,092	...	...	...	14,092
TOTALS	17,100,811	6,149,835	552,244	225,022	24,027,912	17,933,356	6,367,132	510,248	245,062	25,055,798
									Net Increase	1,027,886

In the last five years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows:—

In 1917	...	...	15,784,369 tons.
1918	...	...	13,064,270 „
1919	...	...	18,885,183 „
1920	...	...	24,027,912 „
1921	...	...	25,055,798 „

In the small craft (steamers under 50 tons and native vessels) the combined arrivals and departures were 51,069 in number and 2,296,268 in tons in 1921 as compared with 62,395 and 2,576,161, respectively, in 1920.

Fourteen new steam-launches and motor-vessels with a tonnage of 1,716 tons gross and 29 sailing-vessels of 3,252 tons were registered during the year under the Imperial Shipping Acts. Under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1910, 16 new sailing-vessels of 1,539 tons were licensed under section 424, and 791 vessels of 8,667 tons under section 425.

The income and expenditure of the Singapore Harbour Board for the years ending June 30th, 1920 and June 30th, 1921, have been as follows:—

	<i>Income.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	—	—
	\$	\$
Year ending 30th June, 1920	20,754,623	11,079,039
Year ending 30th June, 1921	17,782,797	12,644,492

The capital debt due to Government stood at 30th June, 1921, at \$51,162,518 on which the Board pays interest at 4 per cent. In addition to this capital, the Board has expended on new works and other expenditure of a permanent nature a sum of \$3,688,712 from reserve accounts.

The total gross earnings of the Wharf and Dock of the Penang Harbour Board for the year 1921 were \$1,323,921 and the expenditure was \$1,168,005 (the figures are only approximate for the second half of the year).

(b) TRADE.

The trade of the Colony in 1921 was in a state of depression throughout the year.

The following figures excluding Coin and Bullion show the value of the foreign trade of the Colony in thousands of pounds sterling for the last five years:—

Merchandise—

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports Merchandise. Increase or decrease over the preceding year.</i>	<i>Exports Merchandise. Increase or decrease over the preceding year.</i>
	£	£	£	£
1917 ...	73,987	72,307	...	...
1918 ...	81,618	71,922	+ 7,631	— 385
1919 ...	96,664	99,318	+ 15,046	+ 27,396
1920 ...	124,216	102,536	+ 27,552	+ 3,218
1921 ...	65,791	56,138	— 58,425	— 46,398

The value of the inter-port trade, including treasure for the last five years, was as follows in thousands of pounds sterling:—

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports. Increase or decrease over the preceding year.</i>	<i>Exports. Increase or decrease over the preceding year.</i>
	£	£	£	£
1917 ...	8,137	8,720	...	...
1918 ...	*9,183	*9,584	+ 1,046	+ 864
1919 ...	+13,164	+13,235	+ 3,981	+ 3,651
1920 ...	14,938	14,797	+ 1,774	+ 1,562
1921 ...	6,904	6,887	— 8,034	— 7,910

The aggregate trade for the year 1921 was therefore £121·9 millions, against £226·7 millions in 1920, a decrease of £104·8 millions over 1920.

Bullion and Specie.—The figures for Bullion and Specie in thousands of pounds sterling for the year were:—

<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
£	£
2,335	1,887

* Excluding Coin and Bullion.
half of 1919 only.

† Coin and Bullion included for second

Distributed according to classes the foreign trade records in thousands of pounds sterling are as follows:—

	<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
1. Live Animals, Foods, Drinks and Narcotics ...	43,579	26,204	28,141	21,129
2. Raw Materials ...	47,510	24,391	59,229	25,439
3. Manufactured and partly Manufactured Articles ...	33,127	15,196	15,166	9,570
TOTAL ...	124,216	65,791	102,536	56,138

The figures of Imports and Exports decreased in all classes as compared with the previous year.

The volume of Straits Produce shipped was in many cases less than in 1920.

Articles of Straits Produce on the whole gave smaller average prices than in 1920.

Tin.—The imports of tin and tin-ore were in 1921, 78,000 and 1,029,000 pikuls, respectively, as against 84,000 and 1,068,000 pikuls, respectively, in 1920 as shown below:—

	1920.		1921.	
	<i>Tin.</i>	<i>Tin Ore.</i>	<i>Tin.</i>	<i>Tin Ore.</i>
	Pikuls.	Pikuls.	Pikuls.	Pikuls.
Malay States ...	61,000	732,000	73,000	678,000
Netherlands Indies	1,000	146,000	1,000	169,000
Siam ...	5,000	143,000	4,000	104,000
Other Countries ...	17,000	47,000	...	78,000
Total ...	84,000	1,068,000	78,000	1,029,000

The exports of tin in 1920 and 1921 were as follows:—

	1920.		1921.	
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
		\$		\$
United Kingdom	225,000	34,344,000	200,000	16,338,000
United States of America ...	472,000	73,095,000	330,000	27,573,000
Other Countries	131,000	20,325,000	174,000	14,534,000
Total ...	828,000	127,764,000	704,000	58,445,000

Para Rubber.—The imports of Para Rubber in 1920 and 1921 from the following countries were as follows:—

	1920.		1921.	
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
	—	—	—	—
		\$		\$
Malay States ...	1,305,000	120,454,000	1,923,000	47,766,000
Netherlands				
Indies...	373,000	30,009,000	303,000	7,115,000
Other Countries	80,000	7,398,000	110,000	2,535,000
	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1,758,000	157,861,000	2,336,000	57,416,000
	—	—	—	—

The exports of Para Rubber in 1920 and 1921 to the following countries were as follows:—

	1920.		1921.	
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
	—	—	—	—
		\$		\$
United Kingdom	406,000	40,507,000	398,000	13,333,000
United States of				
America ...	1,880,000	202,008,000	2,268,000	64,264,000
Other Countries	277,000	26,455,000	622,000	16,590,000
	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2,563,000	268,970,000	3,288,000	94,187,000
	—	—	—	—

It will thus be seen that there was a decrease in quantity of tin exported in 1921, and the value also decreased by nearly seventy million dollars.

As regards Para Rubber, both Imports and Exports showed large increases in quantity but decreases in value as compared with the previous year. The value of imports decreased by nearly 100 million dollars and that of exports by nearly 175 million dollars.

Imports.—In “Foodstuffs, drinks and narcotics,” decreased values are seen under the sub-heads cattle, swine, bread and biscuits, butter and cheese, coffee, fish dry and salted, beans and peas, bran, rice, wheat flour, arrack and samsoo, brandy, milk, sago flour, arecanuts, black pepper, cigarettes and vegetables.

Under the heading "Raw Materials," decreased values appear in tin, tin-ore, coal, copra, gutta inferior, Para rubber, sticklac, hides raw, kachang oil, rattans and timber, while enhanced values are apparent in benzine and petroleum.

In the "Manufactured Class," cotton piece-goods, yarns, apparel, sarongs, slendangs and kains, silk piece-goods, gunnies, cycles and accessories, hardware and cutlery, iron corrugated, iron nails, motor-cars, motor-cycles and accessories, steel, tin-plates, cement, chemicals, leather, boots and shoes, paper and paperware, perfumery and cosmetics, rubber tyres and woodenware show decreased values.

In quantities imported there were decreases under coffee, swine, beans and peas, bran, wheat flour, brandy, milk, arecanuts, sago flour, black pepper, pig iron, coal, ground-nuts, rattans, sandal wood, cotton piece-goods, canvas, steel, acetic acid and cement.

Increases in quantities are most noticeable in rice, fish dry and salted, salt, white pepper, sugar, cigarettes, copra, raw cotton, mangrove bark and cotton blankets.

Exports.—Exports of the following show declines in values:—

"Foodstuffs, drinks and narcotics"—

Swine, bread and biscuits, coffee, preserved pine-apples, beans and peas, bran, wheat flour, milk, oilman's stores, prepared chandu, sago flour, arecanuts, black pepper, sugar, tapioca and cigarettes.

"Raw Materials"—

Tin, copra, gum copal, gutta percha, gutta interior, Para rubber, sticklac, hides raw, coconut oil, kachang oil, rattans and planks.

"Manufactured Class"—

Cotton piece-goods, sarongs, slendangs and kains, yarns, gunnies, ironware, motor-cars, motor-cycles and accessories, crockery and porcelain, tanned hides, matches and woodenware, while increases are apparent in—

"Foodstuffs, drinks and narcotics"—

Eggs fresh and salted and rice.

"Raw Materials"—

Mangrove bark, phosphate of lime, and bees and other wax.

“Manufactured Class”—

Other manufactured textiles of sorts and telegraph and telephone materials.

The quantities of fish, dry and salted, tapioca, arecanuts, rice, salt, cigarettes, copra and phosphate of lime show an increase.

A decrease in volume is recorded of wheat flour, arrack and samsoo, beans and peas, milk, prepared chandu, sago, tin, Para rubber, rattans, sandalwood and cotton piece-goods.

Trade by Countries.—The following statement shows the position of the Colony in the years 1920 and 1921 as a market for British, European, American, Japanese and other foreign goods.

(The value of the trade in merchandise with the United Kingdom, Continent of Europe, United States of America, and Japan is shown in thousands of pounds sterling.)

		<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
		1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
		—	—	—	—
		£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	...	18,334	7,730	12,565	5,629
Belgium	...	328	132	585	96
Denmark	...	83	89	2,332	181
France	...	432	389	2,927	1,302
Germany	...	231	103	307	1,238
Holland	...	729	353	1,323	1,142
Italy	...	664	362	808	419
Norway	...	64	4	...	...
Sweden	...	94	26	1	...
Spain	...	31	4	63	321
United States of America	...	5,595	2,990	33,846	11,418
Japan	...	5,437	2,627	1,918	2,030

The articles which gave the largest decreased values from the United Kingdom were cotton piece-goods, apparel, hosiery and millinery, corrugated iron, hardware and ironware including cooking utensils, yarns, steel, canvas, sarongs, slendangs and kains, motor-cars, motor-cycles and accessories, cycles, parts and accessories, cotton handkerchiefs and brandy.

From the United States of America decreases in imports are seen in cigars and cigarettes, tinned provisions including fruits, milk, rubber tyres, paper and stationery, motor-cars and accessories and increases in petroleum and lubricating oil.

From Japan the following show declines in imports:—

Coal, cotton piece-goods, apparel, and hosiery, cabinet and woodenware, matches and cement.

Exports to the United Kingdom showed advances in such articles as preserved pineapples and oil cakes, but decreases took place in tin, sago, pepper, tapioca, Para rubber, rattans, gutta percha, copra, gambier, hides and illipi nuts.

In our Exports

to France—Sago,

to Italy—Preserved pineapples.

to Denmark—Para rubber,

all advanced, declines being seen in tin, copra, pepper, Para rubber and illipi nuts to France; copra, sago and Para rubber to Italy; and copra and sago to Denmark.

The principal exports to Belgium were sago, copra, and Para rubber; to Holland copra, rattans, sago and Para rubber; to Spain copra and sago, and to Germany copra, rattans, Para rubber, peppers, tapioca and tin.

Exports to the United States advanced in value of pepper, but tin, gambier, tapioca, copra, rattans, gutta inferior, gutta percha, Para rubber and gum copal fell in values.

Exports to Japan showed increases in values of raw cotton, copra, gutta percha, rattans and Para rubber, while declines are seen in shells, tin and gunnies.

There was a fall in the total value of exports to Australia and New Zealand, Netherlands Indies, Malay States, French Indo-China, North Borneo and Sarawak, British India and Burma, Siam and Siamese States and Hongkong and China.

A Committee was appointed early in 1920 to inquire into the system of the Registration of Imports and Exports in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States and to make proposals for the proper compilation and co-ordination of the statistics of British Malaya. The Committee met in Kuala Lumpur and a report was consequently drawn up and sent in to Government in November, 1920. As a result a monthly return of Imports and Exports in British Malaya was compiled and published from July, 1921 onwards.

Registration of Joint Stock Companies.—1921 was the sixth year during which the Companies Ordinance, 1915, was in force. Twenty-nine new companies were registered, one without share-capital and twenty-eight with a capital of \$16,270,000; of which 21 were private companies with a capital of \$14,640,000.

At the end of the year 381 companies remained on the register of which 38 were in liquidation. The total subscribed capital of the 332 companies which carry on a business was \$164,053,810.

Four hundred and forty-three companies not incorporated in the Colony, have filed documents under the Companies Ordinance; of these, 344 are British, 31 are Japanese, 25 are Dutch and 21 are incorporated in the United States, America. Apart from these 12 companies of which 11 are British have complied with the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, and private Ordinances have been enacted in respect of five foreign companies. Sixty-two companies do Fire Insurance business.

(c) FORESTS.

The area of reserved forests was increased by the addition of 754 acres to the Tanjong Burong Reserve in the Dindings, and by about 200 acres at Cape Rachado. The total area of reserved forests is now 107,122 acres, equivalent to 11·1 per cent of the total area of the Colony, and the reservation of a further 2,528½ acres in the Dindings is under consideration.

Revenue and expenditure were \$43,837 and \$50,572 respectively, compared with \$57,268 and \$42,849 in 1920. There was therefore a deficit of \$6,735. Revenue in Singapore increased from \$12,979 to \$16,678, owing chiefly to the transfer of \$3,000 from deposits to revenue. In all other Settlements the revenue fell, the most important decrease being that from \$23,245 to \$10,341 in Malacca due to the gradual exhaustion of Crown Land and the fall in premia on forest areas alienated. A rise is however expected when trade conditions improve and the effects of the better administration of the forests make themselves felt.

The out-turn of timber was 9,835 tons, and of fuel 24,375 tons, compared with 10,837 and 27,358 tons the previous year.

Planting of mangrove was continued in the Tanjong Burong Reserve in the Dindings, where about 246 acres which had been exploited in previous years were planted with bakau minyak at a cost of \$3.25 per acre. The area should have been planted up by the felling contractors, who paid the department \$1,400 for failure to do so. About 1,000 seedlings were protected against the attacks of crabs by means of pieces of tin bent round the stem just above the ground. These were planted alternately with unprotected seeds, and at the end of the year it was found that 84 per cent of the protected and only 60 per cent of the unprotected had survived. The experiment is being continued.

Breaches of the forest law were reported to the number of 104 of which 67 were compounded, and 33 were taken to court, and 4 were pending at the close of the year. Fines inflicted in court amounted to \$445 in addition to \$39.16 awarded as compensation for damage to the forest. In the compounded cases a sum of \$872.50 was paid.

A complete scheme for the amalgamation of the forest departments of the Federated Malay States and the Colony was submitted towards the close of the year and has actually been carried into effect pending a settlement of the financial arrangements to be made. The two senior rangers belonging to the Colony have been transferred to the Federated Malay States, and Federated Malay States officers are now entirely responsible for all the purely administrative work.

(d) AGRICULTURE.

Rubber.—The year under review must be described as the worst, from a financial point of view which the plantation rubber industry has ever suffered. This state of affairs was due entirely to general world conditions and was reflected in most agricultural industries in other parts of the world. The market price of rubber was low throughout the year, as will be seen in the table below, which gives the Singapore prices during the year.

SINGAPORE PRICE.

CENTS PER lb.

—	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Standard ribbed sheet	32-37	34-37½	30-33	30-32	28-29½	21-26	28-31½	26½-28	26½-30½	30½-33½	33-38	36½-39½
Second quality ribbed sheet ...	20-33½	20-35½	20-32	17-31	16-30	11-25	15-31	19-27½	20-30	23-33	25½-38	31½-39½
Standard 1st Latex crepe ...	34-37	35½-39	36½-39	34½	32½-33	25-28	30-32	27½-29½	27½-30½	29½-31½	32-37½	36-39½
Second quality latex crepe ...	20-36½	20-35½	19-32	17-31	16-30	11-25	16-32	21½-29½	20-29	22-32	25-37½	31-39
Lower grade crepe ...	11-26½	12-26½	10-26	9½-23½	9½-24½	4½-20	8-25	13-22½	11½-23½	17-27	18-34	24-35½
Bark Crepe ...	10-17	10-15½	8-14	8-13	8-16	4-10½	5-14½	13-15	11½-18	17-21½	18-27	24-29

A number of estates ceased tapping and reduction of output was effected on other estates by alternate day tapping or adoption of resting periods. Conditions at the end of the year indicated little or no improvement in the market.

The two diseases of the rubber tree which have received special attention during the year are Pink Disease (*Corticium Salmonicolor*) and Mouldy Rot (*Sphæronema fimbriatum*).

Two cases of Pink Disease were found in Malacca, where the disease was almost unknown.

Three cases of Patch Canker were observed on an estate in Malacca and also one case of Mouldy Rot.

The appointment of two Assistant Agricultural Inspectors, enabled systematic inspection and supervision to be undertaken. No serious outbreaks of disease were recorded in the Colony during the year.

In spite of the present over-production, considerable interest is being taken in methods of improvements of yield of rubber by bud-grafting and seed selection. Experimental work is being continued in this connection. More attention is also being paid to soil and water conservation on hilly and undulating land by means of scientific methods of drainage, silt-pitting, terracing, etc., and cultivation of cover crops.

Coconuts.—Coconut cultivation still continues to be a steady and sound agricultural industry. The price of copra has been maintained at a fairly satisfactory level throughout the year, although the prices are below those for 1920.

The price of nuts in the coast district has ranged from 4 to 5 cents compared with 4 to 10 cents in 1920 while prices in inland districts have ranged from 6 to 15 cents compared with 15 to 20 cents in 1920.

The price of copra has ranged from \$10 to \$16 per picul compared with an average price of \$22 per picul in 1920.

The present price is only slightly above that prevailing in 1912-1913 but is sufficient to give a reasonable profit.

Considerable attention has been paid to the clearing up of small holdings during the year and also to the destruction of refuse heaps which constitute favourable breeding grounds for the Black Beetle and the Red Stripe Weevil.

These pests have been in evidence in Province Wellesley, Malacca and Singapore. There still remain large numbers of decaying coconut stumps and logs, cut probably in 1915-1916 and all liable to be badly affected with the grub of the Black Beetle.

The work in Malacca has had satisfactory results, while progress in Singapore has been slow, but is improving.

A suitable, cheap and effective incinerator for the destruction of village refuse was designed by the Government Entomologist and Chief Agricultural Inspector.

Tractor cultivation is being carried out on a number of coconut estates and found to be very effective in controlling weeds and for cultivation purposes.

Investigations have been carried out on Bud-rot of coconut palms and on the Black Beetle and Red Stripe Weevil and considerable progress in our knowledge of these pests has been made. Further work on *Plesispa Reichei* and *Brachartona catoxantha*, two important pests of coconuts have been carried out.

The latter pest was prevalent in Province Wellesley and the Geylang district of Singapore during the year.

Investigations on seed selection are also being carried out.

Rice.—Seed selection investigations are being continued with satisfactory results.

In Malacca in 1921 the crop was reported to be good. Planting during the 1921 season however was irregular, due to an outbreak of rinderpest, which killed a number of buffaloes and reduced the area which could be planted. The earlier planted portion was ripening at the end of the year but the later planting is suffering from drought.

In Province Wellesley the crop appeared fair but will not be as good as the unusually good crop harvested in 1921.

The padi at Balik Pulau (Penang) yielded well in 1921 and promises well for 1922.

The gross yield of wet padi in 1921 on an area of 74,835 acres was 21,787,700 gantangs giving an average of 291 gantangs per acre.

The principal enemies of padi in Malaya are insects and a number of investigations are in progress in connection with their control.

The practice of allowing padi stubble and self-grown padi to grow between the padi season is undesirable, since ideal conditions are maintained for the insects to remain and propagate till the next season. Stem borers are distributed generally in the padi areas. *Podops coarctata* (Bena Kuru or Kutu Bruang) was reported in Malacca. It causes damage only when the padi areas are too dry.

Leptocoris variconis (Pianggang) also caused damage to padi in Malacca. Rats have caused considerable damage

during the past year in all parts of the country, but chiefly on sawahs adjoining jungle land in Malacca. Poisoned baits appear to be eaten readily but the exact effect is not easy to ascertain, owing to the difficulty of finding the dead rats. The Malays in Malacca however appeared to be satisfied with the results obtained.

The chief difficulty is that the owners of holdings take no steps to keep down the numbers, until the rats commence to attack the padi, by which time they are numerous. Useful results can only be obtained by trapping and poisoning during the whole season. Stocks of poison have now been purchased by the Department for distribution.

Other Crops.—Investigations in connection with other crops are being carried out by the Department on the New Experimental Plantation at Serdang in the Federated Malay States, which it is hoped will result in information enabling the Department to recommend the planting of crops other than rubber.

(e) LAND.

(i).—LAND TENURE.

Singapore.—Land in the hands of private owners in Singapore is held direct from the Crown either by lease or grant. The earliest of the existing titles are the 999 year leases issued for land in the town soon after the founding of Singapore.

The first of the present 99 year leases for land in the town were issued in 1838.

From 1845 onwards a large number of free-hold grants were issued for land outside the limits of the town. The margin allowed for the expansion of the town was however insufficient with the result that land in the most densely crowded part of the present town is held under these titles, which were originally issued for land required for agricultural purposes. In the case of town lands the issue of 99 year leases continued.

After the transfer to the Colonial Office in 1867 the titles issued for land both in town and country were 99 year leases and 999 year leases. Ordinance No. II of 1886 provided for a Statutory form of Crown Title—the present Statutory Land Grant, which is a grant in perpetuity subject to a quit-rent, the form of which was simplified by the omission of various covenants and conditions previously inserted in leases, most of which are implied by virtue of the Statute.

The Statutory Grant is now the usual form of title issued but leases for 999 and 99 years and for shorter periods are still occasionally issued in particular cases. Monthly and

annual permits are also issued for the temporary occupation of Crown Land. Leases of foreshore can be issued under Ordinance No. 69 (Foreshores) for terms which must not exceed 100 years except in special cases with the approval of the Secretary of State.

Penang.—Land in Penang and Province Wellesley is held of the Crown, as in Singapore, by grant or lease. The conditions of tenure vary according to the policy of the Government at the time the documents were issued. In Singapore eighteen and in Penang twenty different kinds of title are in the hands of the public. Unoccupied Crown land is obtainable on Statutory Grants as in Singapore, and Statutory Grants are also being substituted for Permits and Expired Leases. Alienation of foreshore is subject to Ordinance No. 69 (Foreshores).

The rates of rent reserved in old leases vary in different localities.

Malacca.—The tenure of land in the town of Malacca has remained unchanged since the days of Dutch rule. Possession is evidenced in many cases by documents of title in Dutch. Occupied land in the country is, in some cases, held either under grant or lease from the Crown, but for the most part according to customary tenure as defined by the Malacca Lands Ordinance. There is special legislation, Ordinance No. 69, for alienation of foreshore.

The principal land revenue consists of rents on rubber, tapioca and gambier leases and of mukim assessment under customary tenure.

(ii).—LAND REVENUE.

The Revenue in 1921 was thus distributed:—

—		Land Revenue.	Reimburse- ments.	Land Sales.	Total.
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Singapore	... { 1920	247,794	19,028	1,792,913	2,059,735
	... { 1921	266,844	22,769	104,439	394,052
Penang	... { 1920	214,057	21,194	21,424	256,675
	... { 1921	216,982	23,927	13,358	254,267
Malacca	... { 1920	571,400	16,078	313,700	901,178
	... { 1921	523,055	5,952	34,247	563,254
Labuan	... { 1920	4,037	4,266	1,027	9,330
	... { 1921	4,604	5,048	422	10,074
Total ...	{ 1920	1,037,288	60,566	2,129,064	3,226,918
	{ 1921	1,011,485	57,696	152,466	1,221,647

(iii).—ALIENATION OF LAND.

The area of Crown Land alienated, and the number of Statutory Grants issued during the last five years together with the amount of premia paid in respect of the same, are shown in the following table:—

Singapore.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Area granted ...	2,034 3 10	599 0 03	392 3 25	340 3 34	454 2 17
	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.
„ Town Lots	61,182	237,980	204,130	131,908	49,766
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	87	79	83	88	30
Premia paid ...	\$76,113	\$291,273	\$348,235	\$1,780,736	\$92,308

Penang.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Area granted ...	636 1 10	472 0 19	16 1 32	556 3 00	824 1 5
	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.
„ Town Lots	9,015	12,228	Nil.	Nil.	12,357
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	288	151	1	83	84
Premia paid ...	\$8,022	\$4,109	\$2,457.50	\$15,422.00	\$11,061.50

Malacca.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Area granted ...	7,113 2 28	8,721 0 12	4,214 0 08	1,919 2 38	1,590 1 32
	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.	sq. ft.
„ Town Lots	...	738	20,190	15,957	6,522
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	494	286	219	108	39
Premia paid ...	\$143,267	\$172,622	\$77,207	\$50,170	\$42,790

Labuan.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Area granted ...	185 2 12	...	...	1,403 1 26	185 0 16
„ Town Lots	0 2 13	0 4 10	17 1 17	...	5 0 00
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	62	39	73	290	221
		(18 new Grants & 44 in exchange for old titles.)	(in exchange for old titles.)		(190 new Grants 15 in exchange for old titles & 16 sub-division grants.)
Premia paid ...	\$460	\$83	\$36	\$1,027.64	\$422.60

III.—Legislation.

The Ordinances passed during the year 1921 were 39 in number, including two Supply Ordinances. Sixteen of these are purely amending Ordinances.

2 The most important of the Ordinances which are not purely amending Ordinances are:—

- (i) The Income Tax Ordinance (No. 1) which reproduces and continues with some variations the Income Tax Ordinance, 1920 (No. 3).
- (ii) The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Ordinance (No. 8) which provides for the enforcement in the Colony of maintenance Orders made in England or Ireland or *vice versa*.
- (iii) The Straits Settlements Loan Ordinance (No. 11) which authorises the Governor to raise a loan not exceeding \$20,000,000 and to lend the whole or part of the sum so raised to the Government of the Federated Malay States.
- (iv) The Machinery Ordinance (No. 20) which consolidates the law relating to machinery and provides for the inspection of boilers, engines and other machinery and for regulating their control and working.
- (v) The Indemnity Ordinance (No. 21) which first provides for the indemnity of all those who acted during the war in good faith on behalf of the Government, secondly limits the time within which actions may be brought against the Government for acts done during the war, and lastly limits in the absence of a definite previous agreement claims in respect of damage to property or in respect of requisitioned or controlled shipping.
- (vi) The Straits Settlements Loan Ordinance (No. II), (No. 24) which authorises the Straits Settlements Government to raise a loan of £10,000,000 and to lend the money so raised to the Federated Malay States Government.
- (vii) The Rubber Dealers Ordinance (No. 27) which consolidates the law in regard to Rubber Dealers.
- (viii) The Statistics Ordinance (No. 28) which provides for the establishment in the Colony of a Statistical Bureau for the collection and arrangement of information relating to various interests with which the Colony is concerned.

- (ix) The Volunteer Ordinance (No. 30) which replaces the forces (other than Regular forces) existing in the Colony by the establishment of a Volunteer force.
- (x) The Food Control Ordinance (No. 31) which provides for the maintenance of an adequate supply of food in the Colony.
- (xi) The Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments (No. 34) which facilitates the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments and Awards in this Colony and other parts of His Majesty's Dominions or Territories under His Majesty's Protection.
- (xii) The Rent Restriction Continuation Ordinance (No. 35) authorising the extension for six months of the operation of the Rent Restriction Ordinance, 1921, which would otherwise have expired at the end of 1921.

The principal amending Ordinances are:—

- (i) The Courts (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 12) which empowers Judges of the Supreme Court of the Colony to sit as *ex-officio* Judges of the State of Johore and *vice versa* and secondly provides for special remuneration of duly qualified persons other than salaried public servants appointed temporarily to act as Judges. This Ordinance was repealed by the Ordinance mentioned in (iii) below and its provisions embodied in Ordinance No. 101 (Courts).
- (ii) The Municipal (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14) which provides for the control, by licence, of market vendors and for the licensing of places in which human food or drink is sold or prepared or stored for sale. This innovation was necessary for the purpose of preventing the rings, which had control over the stall-holders in the markets, from selling fresh provisions at an unduly high price. This Ordinance was repealed by the Ordinance next mentioned and its provisions embodied in Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal).
- (iii) The Statute Laws (Revised Edition) Operation Ordinance (No. 26) which amends the Revised Edition of the Laws of the Colony in accordance with the amendments in 1920 and 1921 of such Ordinances as are included in the Revised Ordinances.

IV.—Communications.

(a) POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| A | Letters addressed to foreign countries ... | First oz. ... 12 cents.
each succeeding oz. 3 " |
| B. | Letters addressed to places in the British Empire except those places named in C. ... | Per oz. ... 6 " |
| C. | Letters addressed to places in the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Johore, British North Borneo, Sarawak, Brunei, Trengganu and Kemaman ... | First two ozs. ... 5 "
each succeeding one ounce or fraction thereof 1 cent. |
| D. | Postcards addressed to:— | |
| | (i) Foreign countries ... | ... 8 cents. |
| | (ii) Places in the British Empire except those named in C ... | ... 4 " |
| | (iii) Countries named in C ... | ... 2 " |
| E. | Printed Papers, for every two ozs. ... 3 " | |

except that the rate of postage on a newspaper

(a) printed and published within the Straits Settlements or in any British Possession or Protected State in Malaya; or

(b) registered as a newspaper at the General Post Office, London, if posted in the Straits Settlements addressed to any place in the Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Perlis, Trengganu, (including Kemaman), British North Borneo, Sarawak or Brunei, is 2 cents for any weight not exceeding 4 ounces, and 2 cents for every additional 2 ounces, provided that the postage on a single newspaper shall not exceed 4 cents, and provided that no enclosure which is not part of the newspaper or a supplement thereto is enclosed with the newspaper. If two or more copies are sent in a single packet, each newspaper shall be liable to the same postage as if posted separately, but in no case shall a packet of such newspapers be chargeable with a higher rate than that chargeable on a packet of printed papers of the same weight.

The number of postal articles (excluding parcels) posted in the Colony was 12,762,832, an average of 14.44 per inhabitant, as against 16.09 the average in the previous year. The number received for delivery was 10,369,760, as compared with 11,651,860 in 1920. The number of messages forwarded over Government Telegraph lines during the year 1921 was 496,819 as compared with 578,006 in 1920, whilst the number received over the Government Telegraph lines decreased from 488,931 in 1920 to 370,236 in 1921. The number of subscribers to the Government telephone exchanges increased from 936 to 1,038.

The amount at the credit of depositors in the Government Savings Bank on the 31st December, 1921 was \$1,772,240.08, an increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent as compared with the amount on December 31st, 1920. The average amount at the credit of each depositor was \$181.99. There was a profit on the year's working of \$25,987.46. The estimated present value of the investments is \$1,526,063.65.

In addition to the General Post Office, Singapore, and the Chief Post Offices at Penang, Malacca and Labuan, there are 38 Sub-offices in the Colony, including the Railway Post Offices at Bukit Timah (Singapore), Jarak, Kreh, Penanti, Pinang-Tunggal, and Simpang Ampat (Province Wellesley). Of these 22 are Telegraph Offices.

The operations of the Money Order Branch amounted in 1921 to \$6,384.428, the principal business done being with India, Federated Malay States, Ceylon, United Kingdom, Netherlands East India and United States of America.

Ten Submarine Cables radiate from Singapore:—

To Madras	... 1 Direct.	
Penang	... 4, thence to Madras	(2)
	" " Colombo	(1)
	" " Deli	(1)
Batavia	... 1, thence to Cocos	(1)
Banjoewangie	... 1, thence to Darwin	(2)
Hongkong	... 1 Direct.	
Cochin China	... 1, thence to Hongkong	(1)
Labuan	... 1, thence to Hongkong	(1)

There are also Government telegraph lines from Penang to Province Wellesley, and thence to Perak, Selangor, Pahang, Negri Sembilan, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Trengganu, Siam, Johore, Malacca, and Singapore. The land line from Singapore to Penang *via* Kuala Lumpur was opened for traffic in June, 1909. There are 790 miles of

telegraph lines, 36 miles of submarine cable between Penang and Province Wellesley and 2 miles between Singapore and Johore, and there are 21,081 miles of telephone line. The Telephone Exchange in Singapore is worked by the Oriental Telephone Company and the Exchanges in Penang, Province Wellesley and Malacca are worked by the Post Office.

(b) COMMUNICATION BY SEA.

Over 50 lines of sea-going steamers touch at Singapore. There is regular communication with Europe weekly by British India steamers *viâ* Negapatam and Bombay, and fortnightly services by the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Maritimes vessels *viâ* Ceylon; in addition there is a fortnightly service by the Steamship Company *Nederland*; and at frequent intervals by the Holt's, Chargeurs-Reunis, Glen, Shire, Japanese and other lines; with China and Japan twice a fortnight by the P. & O. and M. M. lines, and by other lines frequently; with Cochin China weekly by the Messageries Maritimes; with Manila *viâ* Hongkong and by Spanish packets direct; with Bangkok by Straits Steamship and other steamers; with Batavia and other Netherlands India ports by Netherlands India Company's steamers; with Australian ports frequently by British India, Burns Philip, Ocean Steamship Co., Western Australia Steam Navigation Co., and other lines direct, and occasionally *viâ* Colombo, with the sailings thence of Orient Packets; with Madras (direct), and other ports on the Coromandel Coast, weekly by the British India Company's steamers; and with Rangoon and Calcutta weekly by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., British India, Apar, and other steamers. In addition to the above, there is frequent communication with Penang, Malacca, and ports of the Native States, Hongkong, etc., by local lines. Most of the larger steamers call at Penang. Letters from England reach Singapore in from 23 to 27 days. Services have not yet become normal.

(c) RAILWAYS.

There is a railway from Singapore to Woodlands on the Johore Straits, communication between Woodlands and Johore being maintained by steam ferries. The Federated Malay States Railway extends from Parit Buntar in Krian through Province Wellesley to Penang which is reached by steam ferries from the mainland. There is a railway from Malacca to Tampin in Negri Sembilan. All the railways have a gauge of one metre and connect with the Federated Malay States Railway System, a continuation of which through Johore was opened in 1909. Progress was made in 1921 with the construction of the causeway

across the Johore Straits to connect Singapore with the mainland. This causeway will greatly facilitate the direct transfer of goods to the Federated Malay States from the Tanjong Pagar Wharves. The extensive docks owned by the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company were acquired by the Government in 1905 and are now controlled by a Board composed of members appointed by the Governor.

The Railways in Christmas Island connecting South Point with the loading piers at Flying Fish Cove were all completed in 1921. Phosphate can now be conveyed by railway across Christmas Island and shipped.

There are electric tramway systems in Singapore and Penang.

(d) ROADS.

The metalled roads of the Colony (exclusive of those maintained by the Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca) are Singapore 97 miles; Penang and the Dindings 72 miles; Province Wellesley 167 miles; Malacca 239 miles; Labuan $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

In addition there are 33 miles of gravel road in Malacca and 132 miles of natural road in Singapore, Penang, Province Wellesley, the Dindings, Malacca and Labuan.

In 1921 in Singapore a further two miles of road was converted from laterite to granite while various other portions totalling one and one-half miles were raised and metalled with granite. Asphalt surface was provided for seven and three-quarter miles of road.

In Penang three miles of main road were re-metalled.

In Province Wellesley the bridge across the Muda River which flows between the Northern boundary of Province Wellesley and Kedah was finished and some two and a half miles of main road were re-metalled under the reconstruction scheme.

In Malacca about eleven and one-half miles of main road were reconstructed, granite being substituted for laterite.

V.—Food Control.

Rice-crop prospects at the close of 1920 in Burma, Siam and Saigon were unexpectedly good and would have justified decontrol early in 1921 but for the comparatively large and high cost Government stock which it was decided should be previously cleared. This stock consisted of 74,500 tons, 40,000 tons of which had been purchased in December, 1920, at an average price of 50 cents a gantang, before the new rice-crops were assured.

As soon as the new padi prospects were ascertained, the Food Controller made public declarations of Government's policy, which was to remove all restrictions at the earliest possible date, to restore the trade to its pre-control activities, and to dispose of Government's present stocks in hand and sight at the earliest opportunity.

As it was necessary to have stocks ready to take the place of Government stocks when the latter were exhausted arrangements were made in January with the Importers in Singapore to have imported by the 4th April, 18,000 tons of rice to be kept in reserve to replace Government's stocks on decontrol. As compensation for this tying up of the Importers' capital, a six weeks' monopoly of import was granted to them from such date as decontrol was declared. In Penang, where the liquid capital of the importers, who were also the wholesalers, was already being utilised in the purchase and distribution of Government stocks, 5,500 tons only were imported.

The controlled retail price of rice to consumers in the Distributing Centres of Singapore and Penang was on January 1st, 1921, \$1, in Malacca \$1.07, and in the Federated Malay States \$1.05, per gantang. On the 10th of January, 1921, in view of the seriousness of the industrial position, these prices were reduced to 80 cents, 86 cents, and 84 cents respectively, with an additional loss to Government of \$3,700,000. A further reduction to 70 cents in Singapore and Penang, 77 cents in Malacca and to 75 cents per gantang in the Federated Malay States, was introduced as from the 1st of February. This last reduction cost Government no additional loss, the revised prices representing the average cost of the old Government stock and of the 40,000 tons new stock purchased in December, 1920. There was no further change of price till the 1st of May, when all control over prices was removed.

On the 1st of February, the first steps in decontrol were taken, when transport-forms and retail licences were abolished and Government ceased supplying retailers and Estates direct. From this date onward Government sold in Singapore and Penang to licensed wholesalers only who in turn supplied local retailers and Estates in the Colony and wholesalers and Estates throughout the Federated Malay States. In this way the Trade was enabled gradually to resume its old functions.

On the 16th February, the Rice Distribution Board ceased its operations which during the most critical period of control had been of great assistance to Government and of invaluable service to the community.

Complete decontrol of prices was not declared till May 1st. The causes of this delay lie in the fact that at the close of 1920 Government when it was still supplying the Governments of Sarawak and British North Borneo and when crop prospects were still uncertain, purchased from considerations of public security the 40,000 tons referred to above. Good crops however and general trade depression combined steadily to reduce the market price of rice with the result that, control prices being in excess of market prices, there was at once a reduced consumption of Government stocks coupled with a marked stimulus to the local padi-pounding industry. Consumption was also reduced by the uncertainty of further reductions in controlled prices and the consumer's fear of being left with higher priced stocks in hand.

To accelerate the clearing of Government stocks, no rice was allowed to be imported except with the consent of the Food Controller. The Chinese Mills in Penang, and from the 18th of March, the Government mill at Bagan Serai were for this same reason prohibited from selling their local millings, though they were encouraged to mill in order to have stocks ready for the day of decontrol.

Decontrol was declared on the 1st of May when all remaining restrictions on trade (subject to the six weeks' monopoly granted to those Importers who had brought in stocks) were removed. The powers of the Food Controller, however, to re-introduce restrictions in case of necessity remained. The remaining Government stocks amounting to 30,300 tons, equally distributed at Singapore and Penang, were sold by public tender at an average price of 29 cents per gantang in Singapore and 31 cents in Penang. At the same time the Importers' stocks that had been held in readiness were released, and with the assistance of local emergency reserves that had previously been distributed to Government agents throughout the country, a continuity of supply everywhere was maintained. Prices immediately fell to market level ranging from 60 cents Siam to 55 cents Saigon and 50 cents Rangoon and parboiled in Singapore and Penang and proportionately in Malacca and the Federated Malay States. Daily reports from all centres were received by the Food Controller till the situation had steadied.

Milk prices were decontrolled on the 23rd of May.

The necessity for the retention by the Food Controller of powers to control distribution was proved the following month (June) when as a result of speculations and an

unexpected shortage of stocks in Rangoon, the Burma Government found it necessary, suddenly and without warning, to suspend all rice exports not previously licensed. As Penang relies for its white rice supplies almost entirely on imports from Burma, it was found necessary immediately to prohibit the re-export of rice from Penang to non-Malayan countries. On the 26th July, the Burma Government sanctioned the additional export to the Straits of 15,000 tons, and on the 13th August a further 10,000 tons of which total three-quarters was allotted by the Food Controller to Penang. (Malaya's normal import of rice from Burma is 25,000 tons per mensem). For the same cause, on the 18th July, the export of rice from Singapore also was similarly prohibited except with the consent of the Food Controller, which was granted only in respect of stocks in excess of a margin of safety (in Singapore) of 25,000 tons. Rice exports from Singapore were resumed on the 1st of September, thanks to plentiful supplies of rice from Saigon and Siam and a good harvest in Java. In Penang however restrictions on export were maintained till the end of the year.

As the Imperial Order in Council of 1896 under which the Food Control Regulations of 1917 and 1918 were enacted, was liable to be withdrawn, a Food Control Bill consolidating the Food Control Regulations was introduced into the Legislative Council on the 5th September and finally passed (No. XXXI of 1921) after amendment by a Select Committee, on the 23rd November. The Ordinance as enacted is brought into operation only on declaration of a State of Emergency. It also provides for Advisory Committees in each Settlement together with the necessary Food Control Officers to be appointed subject to the said declaration. The period of operation is 21 days and may be renewed.

The Imperial Order in Council of 1896 and the Food Control Regulations Straits Settlements ceased to be operative in the Colony on the 9th December.

The Audited Accounts for the three years ending 31st December, 1921 show the total loss of the Food Control Department in all its activities to be \$41,880,773.19 which will be borne as follows by the three Administrations concerned: Straits Settlements $\frac{3}{8}$ ths, Federated Malay States $\frac{1}{8}$ th and Johore $\frac{4}{8}$ th.

Mr. F. M. BADDELEY, who was in addition appointed Under Secretary, Straits Settlements, with effect from the 1st of June, continued to perform the duties of Food Controller throughout the year.

VI.—Immigration.

(i).—CHINESE.

One hundred and ninety-one thousand and forty-three immigrants arrived from China by sea, the largest number since 1913; the figure is an increase of 51·5 per cent on that for 1920 and is only 29·2 per cent less than the figure for 1911, the record year.

As compared with the average for the previous ten years, 1911 to 1920, the number of arrivals in 1921 shows an increase of 19·4 per cent.

Adult males formed 72·6 per cent and adult females 15 per cent of the immigrants.

The increase in the number of immigrants is somewhat surprising in view of the stagnation in the tin and rubber industries; it may be ascribed to the unsettled political conditions in South China, the fall in passage rates due to competition from an increasing number of steamers employed on the China-Straits run, the reduced price of rice combined with a fairly steady rate of exchange ruling throughout the year.

(ii).—SOUTHERN INDIAN.

The total number of immigrants (deck passengers) arriving at Penang from Southern India during the year was 45,673 as compared with 95,220 in 1919.

The number of Indians leaving the Colony for Southern India was 61,551 as against 55,481 in 1919.

The figures for arrivals for the last four years are as follows:—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Assisted immigrants *	55,583	88,021	78,855	15,413
Other immigrants ...	9,708	13,412	16,365	30,260
Total ...	65,291	101,433	95,220	45,673

The assisted immigrant consisted of 14,586 adults and 827 minors. Of the adults 12,211 were men and 2,375 women.

* "Assisted immigrants" are of two classes:—(i) the independent labourer who gets a free ticket from the Emigration Agent in India upon proof that he is a *bonâ fide* labourer, and who is free to work where he pleases; (ii) the Kangany labourer, who is recruited in India by a licensed Kangany, and who goes to a particular place of employment, though he is free, upon arrival there, to give a month's notice of his intention to leave. There is no indentured Tamil labour in the Colony

The health of estates in Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings was very satisfactory during the year, the death-rate in Province Wellesley being 9.24 per mille and in the Dindings 4.10 per mille. Among the 153 labourers employed on estates in Penang there were no deaths.

During 1921, 5,977 adult and 1,583 minor, decrepit and destitute Indians were assisted with a passage back to India.

The rate of assessment to the Tamil Immigration Fund was fixed at \$2 for the first two quarters, \$1 for the third quarter and 50 cents for the fourth quarter of the year 1921.

The Income of the Fund was \$3,027,681.24 and its expenditure \$2,371,613.43.

(iii).—NETHERLANDS INDIAN.

The number of Netherlands Indian labourers on estates in the Colony is 3,410. No contracts under the Netherlands Indian Labourers' Protection Ordinance, 1908, are in force but approximately 122 local contracts for 300 days are in force in the Settlement of Penang.

VII.—Criminal and Police.

The total number of cases in which arrests were effected with or without warrant in the Colony during the year was 19,395 compared with 22,509 in 1920. There was however an increase compared with the previous year in serious offences such as murder and gang robbery. This increase in serious offences was largely due to unemployment. Singapore owing to its position is very liable to an influx of men from neighbouring countries who come to Singapore in search of employment. When they fail to find it some of them are apt to turn their attention to crime.

At the end of the year the strength of the Police Force was 2,996 (Europeans 96; Sikh Contingent 449; Malay and Indian Contingent 2,256; Eurasians 3; Detectives 192). In addition to this there are 335 Police employed by various Government departments, private firms and the Harbour Boards of Singapore and Penang.

Owing to a revision of the salaries of the Asiatic Police, for the first time for many years there was no difficulty in getting as many recruits of all nationalities as were required. The result was that more discrimination could be exercised in selecting recruits for admission and this should in time increase the all-round efficiency of the Force.

At the beginning of the year there were 835 prisoners in the three Criminal Prisons of the Colony (Singapore, Penang and Malacca); 4,988 were admitted during the year as compared with 3,847 in 1920, and 4,845 were discharged; 978 remained at the end of the year. There were 95 vagrants in the Houses of Detention at the beginning of the year; during the year 1,930 were admitted and 1,962 were discharged. Of the 1,962 vagrants discharged 40 found employment and 1,794 were repatriated.

“Middle-grade” prisoners are employed on industrial labour such as printing, book-binding and mat and basket-making. The “Upper-grade” men are mostly employed as cooks, orderlies, clerks, etc., the “Lower-grade” men at stone-breaking and the “Short Sentence” and “Revenue grade” men at stone-breaking, husk-beating and fatigue duties. The revenue of the department was \$11,555 besides which articles to the value of \$8,545 were supplied to Government Departments.

Prison offences showed an average of '8 per annum per prisoner as against '9 in 1920. The health of the prisoners and the sanitary condition of the prison were satisfactory.

VIII.—Vital Statistics.

(a) POPULATION.

At the census held on the night of April 24th, 1921, the total number of persons enumerated in the Straits Settlements was 881,939 of whom 557,838 were males and 324,101 females. The total increase since the 1911 census is 169,988 or 23·8 per cent. Males increased 92,203 or 19·8 per cent and females 77,785 or 31·5 per cent. The distribution among the Settlements was as follows:—

		1911.	1921.
		—	—
Singapore	...	303,321	417,859
Penang	...	278,003	304,572
Malacca	...	124,081	153,599
Labuan	...	6,546	5,909

The total of 881,939 was made up of 8,045 Europeans and Americans, 9,015 Eurasians, 254,843 Malays, 497,406 Chinese, 104,498 Indians, and 8,132 other Nationalities.

Europeans have increased by 10 per cent. To a certain extent these figures are misleading as the European military population in Singapore was less by 564 in 1921 than in 1911.

Excluding the military population the European population of the Colony rose 21·7 per cent. The Eurasian population increased from 8,051 in 1911 to 9,015, an increase of 11·9 per cent. The increase in the Malay population was 15,349 or 6·4 per cent. The Chinese population increased from 368,564 to 497,406, an increase of 34·9 per cent. Chinese males increased by 24·0 per cent and females by 65·2 per cent. The increase in Chinese females was the outstanding feature of the census returns. The Indian population increased from 82,013 to 104,498 or 27·4 per cent.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The number of births and deaths registered during the year was 28,727 and 28,000 respectively.

The crude birth-rate was 32·57 per 1,000 against 29·63 in 1920. The percentage of males born was 52, females 48.

The highest birth-rate as reckoned by nationalities was 42·08 per mille and was classed as "Malays". The lowest was among Indians, 24·67 per mille.

The infantile mortality (deaths of children under one year) shows a ratio of 190·69 per thousand births against 194·86 in 1920.

The number of deaths from infantile convulsions was 3,724, against 3,557 in 1920: many of these deaths are due to tetanus of the new born.

There were 1,424 still-births in 1921 and 1,189 in 1920.

The crude death-rate was 31·79 per thousand, against 33·20 in 1920. The lowest death-rates in the last 10 years were 29·15 in 1915 and 30·70 in 1916: the decrease in mortality in those years was largely due to a war-time measure, the repatriation of thousands of decrepit Chinese to their native land. The highest death-rates in the past 10 years were 46·46 per thousand in 1911 a very malarious year, and 43·85 per thousand in 1918 when the influenza epidemic struck the country.

The highest racial death-rate for the year was 37·05 per mille under "Other Nationalities" and the lowest 9·05 per mille among Europeans.

The deaths from Pneumonia were 1,702, against 1,966 and from Influenza 262, against 362 in the previous year.

Beri-beri accounted for 1,272 deaths, against 1,026 in 1920, 1,430 in 1919, and 1,958 in 1918: the decrease since the latter year has been due to the greater use of parboiled

or undermilled rice supplemented by other articles of diet, in place of the highly milled Siam rice.

Malarial Fevers and Tuberculosis were responsible for 4,707 and 3,292 deaths respectively, against 4,690 and 3,336 deaths in 1920.

Dysentery caused 1,081 deaths and Diarrhoea 359, against 1,085 and 337 respectively in 1920.

Dangerous infectious diseases notified in the Colony have not played a large part in our mortality. There were 63 deaths from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, 28 from Plague, 2 from Cholera and 47 from Small-pox. Forty-one of the 47 deaths from Small-pox occurred in Singapore where Small-pox was prevalent from May until the end of the year: the total of cases in Singapore during that period was 147.

(c) CLIMATE.

The climate varies but little during the year. The mean temperature in Singapore for 1921 was 81.2° F.; in Penang 81.8° F.; in Province Wellesley, 83.7° F.; and in Malacca, 80.0° F. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were between 85.4° and 75.7° F. There are no well-marked rainy and dry seasons, the rainfall being pretty evenly distributed throughout the year. From carefully kept records of observations for a period of 10 years, from 1912 to 1921, it is found in Singapore that there is an annual average of 172 wet days; the average rainfall for the same period being 2555 m.m. In 1921 the mean rainfall in Singapore was 2575 m.m.; in Penang 3488 m.m.; in Province Wellesley 2409 m.m.; in Malacca 2437 m.m.; and in the Dindings 1875 m.m. The force of the monsoons is not much felt, though the prevailing winds are generally in the direction of the monsoon blowing at the time, viz., S.W. from May to October, N.E. from November to April. But it is nothing unusual to have south-east, south or south-west winds for portions of the day as early as March or April.

The rainfall recorded was as follows:—

1921.			
—			
Singapore	...	...	2635.00 m. m.
Labuan	...	...	3416.00 ..
Penang	...	...	3488.00 ..
Province Wellesley	...	...	2697.00 ..
Malacca	...	...	2446.00 ..
Dindings	...	...	1874.96 ..

The mean temperature of the air throughout the year was 85.4°. The maximum recorded was 94.0° in Penang on April 13th and 93.0° in Malacca on December 24th. The minimum was 70° on January 9th and February 14th. The minimum in Singapore was 70.0° on June 9th.

IX.—Education.

The expenditure on the nine Government English schools was \$441,903.08, on the 40 Aided schools (English, Anglo-Tamil, Malay, Tamil and Chinese) \$532,232.01 and on the 194 Government vernacular schools \$287,469.44.

The Malacca Training College for Malay Teachers continued to do good work. Its cost, during the year under review, was \$36,355.12.

The numbers in Secondary Classes show an increase of 116 over the figures for 1919. The Normal Classes continued their work during the year, and 17 Normal Class Certificates were issued.

The teaching staff of the Department is still considerably short of its full complement of European Officers but with the improved rates of salary which were introduced at the beginning of the year the future in this respect can be faced with confidence. Six local teachers were sent to study at the Hongkong University where the number of such students is now eleven. The absence of facilities for higher education in Malaya renders it difficult to get teachers competent to take the higher classes but the opening of the Raffles College will be a definite step in the direction of creating a supply of trained and qualified teachers drawn from the pupils educated in the Colony's own schools.

A site for the Raffles College was selected, in the Economic Gardens at Singapore. Dr. R. O. WINSTEDT, D. LITT., was seconded in June to act as Principal of the College in order to carry out the preliminary arrangements for its inauguration. An Ordinance was drafted to incorporate a Finance Committee and an Executive Committee with power to deal with all matters of detail. The preparation of plans has been thrown open to competition, and as soon as plans have been accepted building will be pushed on so that the College may become a going concern at the earliest possible date. One of its most important functions will be the training of students of both sexes to become teachers in the higher classes in our English Schools.

The Chief Inspector of English Schools for the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States arrived early in

the year. His duty is to ensure co-ordination and uniformity in the English education throughout the country, supplementing in this respect the work of the Inspectors of Schools in the several Settlements.

It had been hoped to commence the erection of three English Schools during the year, namely a new Secondary School at Penang and one Elementary School each at Singapore and Penang. Finances did not admit of this heavy expenditure being undertaken at the present time, but provision was authorised for the construction of two temporary school buildings, at Singapore and Penang respectively, to meet immediate needs in those places pending the time when permanent structures can be erected.

Arrangements were made for holding Evening Classes in commercial and technical subjects at Raffles Institution, Singapore. The response was very satisfactory, and the classes have since opened with a large attendance. A class in Shorthand was also held in Penang, with encouraging results.

Towards the end of the year a scheme of Agricultural education under the supervision of the Director of Agriculture was considered. It was arranged that the schools shall be visited by the Director of Agriculture and his Assistants, who are to advise on the suitability of available ground for school gardens, course of education, and to provide a supply of seeds, materials, etc. In Malacca there are already a number of school gardens.

The medical inspection of school children in Government and Aided schools was undertaken by the Medical Department, and a commencement was made, so far as the available staff of medical officers allowed, on lines which will place this important work on a systematic basis.

The Registration of Schools and teachers under the Registration of Schools Ordinance was carried out by the Education Department excepting in the case of Chinese Schools which were dealt with by the Chinese Protectorates. There was at first some reluctance on the part of Chinese Schools and teachers to register and an agitation was raised in favour of non-compliance. The agitation subsided after some prosecutions and the registration of all Chinese Schools and teachers was completed by the end of the year. The registration of other schools and teachers is still in progress and will soon be complete.

The services of the Physical Director of the Y. M. C. A. in Singapore were, by the courtesy of the Association, made available for the teachers and pupils in the schools and much useful work was done in this direction.

The preparation of text-books for the Malay Vernacular schools was continued. First edition of a Malay Dictionary for Malays, and Advanced Arithmetic for the Training College and a Jawi Reader for Standard II appeared. New editions of a Malay History and an Elementary Arithmetic were printed and a primer on Botany was sent to the press.

The new central College at Tanjong Malim for training Malay School Teachers for the Colony and the Federated Malay States is nearing completion and the students at the Malay College at Malacca will be transferred there when it is opened towards the end of the current year.

Malay vernacular education has broadly three functions to perform: (a) to teach the dull boy enough reading, writing and arithmetic to help him keep his accounts with the village shop-keeper or his employer; (b) to prepare the intelligent boy for that English education which is necessary if he is to aspire to well-paid business or Government; (c) to give the bright boy with a bent for manual work the ground work for prosecuting such work profitably. The first of these functions the Government Malay Schools have fulfilled with increasing success for several decades. The second they have taken up with vigour and most promising results of recent years. A little time ago European headmasters regarded the Malay pupil as backward and dull. For 1920 the Inspector of Schools, Penang, writes: "One of the classes of the Free School was composed of boys who had joined at the beginning of the year after passing Standard IV in a Malay School. In one year this class had advanced so far that the boys in it were able to take the *second* standard examination and succeeded in capturing the first half-dozen or so places". As for the third function, the introduction of basketry and gardening has already done much to inculcate the dignity of manual labour. And when the new Tanjong Malim College shall turn out teachers trained by an expert Agriculturist, an epoch-making advance it to be expected.

X.—General Observation.

Sir J. W. MURISON acted as Colonial Secretary from the beginning of the year until May 14th when Mr. F. S. JAMES, C.M.G., resumed that office on return from leave.

Sir WALTER SHAW arrived in the Colony and assumed duty as Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements on May 29th.

H.M.S. *Malaya* visited Malaya in January and February and the opportunity of seeing this great battleship was much appreciated by the people of the Colony.

Towards the close of the year the Colony received visits from Marshal JOFFRE and Viscount NORTHCLIFFE.

On August 15th a Commission was appointed to enquire into and report on

- (a) the present state of trade depression brought about in the main, by the continued depression in the Rubber Industry; and
- (b) the extension of credit facilities.

The Commission presented a Report dated October 1st, 1921.

A Commission was appointed in September to enquire into the financial position of the Municipality of Singapore and presented a Report before the end of the year.

The preparation of the site of the New General Hospital at Singapore was proceeded with.

An interesting event in the history of the ancient Settlement of Malacca took place on September 3rd when at Alor Gajah OMAR BIN HASAN was invested with the title of Orang Kaya Seri Raja Merah Dato Penghulu Naning and restored to the former position held by the Dato Naning before the Naning Wars of 1832-1833. The little State of Naning, which was founded by settlers from Sumatra about the middle of the 16th century, from its geographical position naturally fell under the sway, first of the Dutch and then of the British in Malacca but to this day has preserved intact the matriarchal Menangkabau (Sumatran) custom of the Sister States in the modern Negri Sembilan. The restoration to the present Dato of the ancient dignities of his position was a fitting reward for a century of loyalty to British rule.

Trade in the Colony as in nearly all other countries in the world has suffered from the after effects of the war. The export trade of the Colony was largely affected by the low prices of rubber and tin. The low prices for both these articles which prevailed throughout the year caused a very serious depression in the export trade and consequently in the import trade. The bad state of trade throughout the year resulted in a considerable amount of unemployment, both European and Asiatic. In February Government was requested to appoint an officer to deal with the question of European unemployment and a central committee was formed in Kuala Lumpur with sub-committees in Singapore, Penang and Ipoh. The Government of the Colony contributed \$10,000 and altogether subscriptions amounting to \$160,155 were received and \$143,187 was spent during the year. 630 applications for assistance were received

and of these 172 were found employment. Passages were granted to 180 men, 44 women and 24 children while financial assistance (including those who received money at their destinations) was given to 311 men, 120 women and 133 children. Including \$10,000 subscribed to the funds of the committee, Government spent \$66,311 on the relief of European unemployment during the year.

The labour position throughout the year caused some anxiety. As a result of the rubber slump, the majority of estates reduced their labour force to a minimum and stopped recruiting. As thousands of labourers return to India monthly either for a holiday or permanently whether times are good, bad or indifferent, this policy was bound in time to produce a shortage of Indian labour. Efforts were made to impress upon employers the necessity of recruiting sufficient labour to make good the wastage but very little recruiting was done. The position was difficult for, while it was clear to those who appreciated the position that there would ultimately be a shortage, there was actually for a short time a small surplus of labour in the country and this may have made employers hesitate about recruiting. During July, August and October there was a certain amount of unemployment among Indian labourers. The unemployed were looked after in camps erected by the Indian Immigration Committee. In October a shortage of labour supervened owing to the failure to make good the normal wastage and the few unemployed Indians were at once absorbed. In December a number of recruiting licences were taken out but the numbers leaving the country were still largely in excess of those arriving from India. There was no Indian unemployment at the end of the year.

It seems possible that the system of alternate-day tapping or some similar system, whereby all trees are not tapped continuously may assist in reducing the old demand for labour. Moreover, the practice of paying contract rates for tapping, which seems to be coming more popular, should have the same effect.

The Chinese Community like all other communities continued to suffer severely from the slump. There was some Chinese unemployment chiefly among coolies formerly employed in the mines or on railway construction but notwithstanding the general stagnation in the staple industries and in trade the large excess of new arrivals from China over returning emigrants appeared for the most part to be readily absorbed.

Trade was bad throughout the year which was one of the least prosperous in the history of the Colony. The depression was due to world-wide causes and the end is not yet in sight. In spite of many cases of suffering the situation has been faced by all classes of the community with patience and courage and the Colony may confidently rely on the spirit of its people to carry it through until a world revival brings commercial prosperity back to Malaya.

F. M. BADDELEY,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

4th August, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1107	Ashanti	1920
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	"
1137	Ceylon	"
1138	Swaziland	"
1139	Hongkong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
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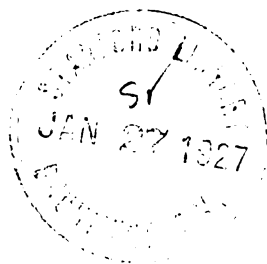
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1141.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1915-16 see No. 918.)



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No. 1141.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COLONY.

St. Lucia is the largest of the Windward Islands. Its extreme length is 27 miles and its greatest breadth 14 miles with an estimated area of 233 square miles. It is situated within view between the French island of Martinique on the north and St. Vincent on the south. It is well known in military history for the many struggles that took place between the British and French until the island was finally ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814. Although under British rule from that period, the Colony remained French in most respects until the early 'eighties of the last century when, the British Government having decided to make St. Lucia a military and naval station, extensive military works were undertaken that attracted labour and settlers from the neighbouring British islands, and a garrison 1,000 strong was established in the Colony. The advent of this British influence gradually effected a change and to-day, although French to some extent is still spoken and French patois is the common vernacular of speech among the lower classes, the instincts of the people are now entirely British and the feeling of strong loyalty to the British Crown exists in every class of the inhabitants.

2. Castries, the chief town, lies on the north-west end of the island on the eastern shore of the harbour which extends a mile to the entrance on the west and is almost land-locked. The town is built on level and for the most part reclaimed land and is well laid out with wide and rectangular streets. On the north and west sides are wharves for the shipping. The port is well known as a coaling station, and nowhere else in the British West Indies can ships lie alongside and be coaled and watered with such rapidity as the conveniences of this port permit.

Government House, the official residence of the Administrator, stands on a prominent spur of Morne Fortuné at the back of the town about 500 ft. above sea-level. The house is a fine commodious building of some architectural pretensions and overlooks the town and harbour, and from it a splendid panoramic view is obtained of the surrounding country and sea. The island of Martinique stands quite visible on the horizon crested by Morne Pelée, the volcano that in 1902 destroyed the beautiful city of St. Pierre and its 30,000 inhabitants in that island. Close on the coast of Martinique is the celebrated Diamond Rock once seized

by the British and commissioned as His Majesty's ship "Diamond Rock." Many captures of vessels proceeding to Martinique were made by cutting-out expeditions from the Rock during the British occupation. In closer view off the coast of St. Lucia is Rodney's fort on Pigeon island, from which observation was kept on the movements of the French fleet under de Grasse and ultimately led to Rodney's celebrated victory in 1782. Pigeon island was once a military station, but has long been abandoned for that purpose and only relics remain of its former historic use. Closer inshore is Rat island, fitted as a quarantine station but fortunately seldom required for such purpose, and more frequently in demand as a health resort and a favourite place for holiday parties and sea-bathing.

In the near distance across the harbour is the narrow promontory known as the Vigie, stretching a mile out to the west forming the northern protecting arm of the port with the lighthouse and signal station on a culminating peak. Many military buildings are located there and are rented from the War Office as private residences.

At the back of Government House, on the summit of Morne Fortuné, 800 ft. above sea-level, is a plateau on which extensive barrack accommodation was provided for the garrison. The troops were, however, withdrawn in 1905 when St. Lucia was abandoned as a military and naval station. All the fine buildings, substantially constructed of brick, are now vacant and deserted. The barracks are too large and inconvenient for private residential use, and the Government already possess all the accommodation needed for public institutions.

3. Twelve miles from Castries on the west side of the island is the picturesque town of Soufriere with about 2,000 inhabitants. This little town, second in importance in the Colony, lies on the margin of a deep bay with lofty hills at the back. Close at hand are the two famous Pitons of St. Lucia. Both cone in shape and less than a mile in circumference at the base, they rise from the sea carrying their peaks into the clouds. The smaller one, 2,461 ft. in height, is almost detached from the land, with precipitous sides that seem incapable of ascent. There is a legend that a party of bluejackets once gained the top and planted a flag, but were unable to descend and perished. In 1887, however, a party of military officers and local residents were successful in climbing to the summit, and returned in safety, and since then the ascent has occasionally been made. When celebrating the coronation of His Majesty King George a man who had previously climbed to the top was employed to make a bonfire on the summit, and the blaze from wood gathered on the spot was visible for many miles around. The larger Piton, though rising to 2,600 ft., is not as precipitous, and can be easily climbed from the land side.

4. Two miles from the town of Soufriere at an elevation of about 800 ft. from sea-level, at the back of the Pitons, is a volcanic crater of peculiar interest which is usually visited by all tourists to

St. Lucia. The sides and basin are encrusted with sulphurous deposits, and boiling cauldrons of black water are in a perpetual state of activity emitting sulphurous fumes. A stone thrown into a cauldron immediately excites increased agitation as of apparent wrath at the aggressive disturbance. There is a comfortable home close by used as a health resort, and hot sulphurous baths can be obtained which if located in the United Kingdom or Europe would be immensely patronized. Beyond Soufriere at intervals of a few miles are the villages of Choiseul and Laborie, and at the southern end of the island which opens out into flat country is the small town of Vieuxfort, prosperous in the days when West Indian sugar held its sway and many thriving planters lived in the locality, but now almost deserted by such residents and showing signs of the struggle against the hard times. Here, at the extremity of the island, is Cape Moule-a-Chique rising abruptly from the low land to an elevation of 733 ft., on the summit of which is a lighthouse fitted with a dioptric flash light with a visibility of 35 miles.

On the east coast are the villages of Micoud and Dennery, and elsewhere on the sea coast are three other villages known as Gros Islet, Anse-la-Raye and Canaries. Besides these towns and villages there are many settlements in inland parts of the island.

5. The Colony is divided into three judicial districts and eleven quarters or parishes.

6. The island is mountainous and rugged with a central ridge running for the most part from north to south, the highest peak attaining an altitude of 3,012 ft. Descending from this ridge in the centre part of the island are three extensive valleys that stretch out into level land many miles in extent. Here are situated three fine sugar factories, one in each valley. A fourth factory is located in the Vieuxfort quarter. There is considerable cultivation in various other directions, but a large portion of the mountain slopes and interior lands still remain in virgin forest in possession of the Crown, while at lower levels around the coast are extensive areas of uncultivable lands in scrub and bush. The island is well watered with several rivers and innumerable streams.

ADMINISTRATION.

7. The Governor-in-Chief resides at Grenada, the headquarters of the Government of the Windward Islands, and pays periodical visits to the other islands of the Windward group. There is, however, no political union between the islands, and the Government of St. Lucia is administered in the Governor's absence by an Administrator invested with the Governor's powers who acts as Colonial Secretary when the Governor is present. There is an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. The former is an advisory body, and many specific functions of administration are imposed by the laws of the Colony on the Governor in Council. The Legislative Council passes all laws and approves all expenditure of public funds.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

8. A census of the population was taken on 24th April. The returns gave a total of 51,505 persons; males 23,506 and females 27,999. Compared with the census in 1911 the figures show an increase of 2,868 or nearly 6 per cent. for the decennial period. 47,876 of the population were born in St. Lucia and 3,629 elsewhere, including 93 Europeans of whom 52 were born in the United Kingdom. 2,189 were returned as of East Indian origin but only 135 were born in India. The population lived in 11,220 houses—in towns and villages 3,519, and in rural districts 7,701. 46,413 of the inhabitants, or 90 per cent., were Roman Catholics, 3,845 Anglicans, 766 Wesleyans, and 270 of other denominations. 33,760, or 65·55 per cent., were unable to read or write.

The following figures show the population at four age groups:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
5 years and under ...	4,374	4,306	8,680	16·8
6 to 20 years ...	8,972	9,379	18,351	35·7
21 to 60 years ...	8,901	12,629	21,530	41·8
61 years and over ...	1,259	1,685	2,944	5·7
	<hr/> 23,506	<hr/> 27,999	<hr/> 51,505	

There were 223 inhabitants per square mile.

The births in the year were 2,090—males 1,047, females 1,043. The deaths numbered 1,283; males 657, females 626. The birth-rate and the death-rate were respectively 37·2 and 21·8 per 1,000 of the total population.

CLIMATIC.

9. The climate of St. Lucia is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian Colonies. Not for many years has there been any outbreak of smallpox or yellow fever or other quarantinable disease or serious epidemic. The temperature ranges from 70° in the cool season to 90° in the summer. The town of Castries, lying on low land with the majority of the houses roofed with corrugated iron, is sometimes hot during the day, but is cool at night. On the hill-sides around, where many of the best residences are built, it is never unbearably warm, while on Morne Fortuné, where the garrison was formerly located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60°, and the climate at all times during the year is extremely mild and pleasant for Europeans.

The rainfall in 1921 was 90·06 in., 2·60 in. in excess of the previous year.

10. On the 8th September a storm passed over the Colony with a wind velocity of 40 miles an hour. The damage sustained was insignificant and only one life was lost. The Colony has been singularly free from all serious climatic or seismic disturbances,

and has been fortunately outside the track of the severe hurricanes that have visited the West Indies in past years.

11. Much has been said and written about the presence of the dreaded fer-de-lance snake in St. Lucia. In former years the Colony was infested with this deadly reptile. In 1870, Sir George Des Voeux, the then Administrator, offered a reward of 6d. a head which resulted in the destruction in one year of 52,000 at a cost to the Colony of £1,300. As the result of the introduction of the mongoose in 1890, and with the advance of cultivation and the continuation of rewards, the remnants of this pest have been driven into the interior, and no one in the Colony now remembers anything about the presence of snakes. The highest number of deaths recorded from snake-bite was 22 in 1869, and not a dozen have occurred during the past twenty years. There was not one in 1921.

FINANCIAL.

12. The inflated prosperity that succeeded the War had the same effect in St. Lucia as elsewhere, and the belief that increased prices for sugar and other products of the Colony would always prevail inspired speculation and excessive expenditure. Some of the sugar factories passed at fictitious values into the hands of syndicates without capital, and when prices suddenly fell in 1920 operations were carried on for a time but came to a stand-still in 1921 until accommodation could be secured from the banks. This cessation of employment and the fall in the market values of all staple products caused a serious set-back to the island. The expenditure of the Colony, which in 1913-14 amounted to £68,352, had risen in 1921 to £101,148. During that period up to 1919 the average expenditure had been £72,000, but in 1920 it jumped to £93,159. The average revenue for the corresponding period up to 1919 was £69,480. In 1920 it increased to £98,139, and fell in 1921 to £72,227, or £28,921 less than the expenditure. Fortunately, a surplus in hand of £12,577 at the commencement of the year reduced the deficit to £16,344. A good deal of revenue was in arrear at the close of the year which would have considerably added to the receipts if the collection had been possible, but, in the general state of severe depression in business and trade, concessions in extending time for payment were imperative. The arrears included about £3,000 for export duties and £5,500 for income tax.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

13. The assets of the Colony at 31st December amounted to £40,822, and the liabilities to £49,731. The assets included investments of £5,027 surplus funds, £7,437 Public Buildings Insurance Fund being the accumulation of annual contributions from general revenue set apart for the insurance of public buildings, and £15,008 savings bank deposits.

The principal items of the liabilities were £15,516 due to savings bank depositors, £7,252 payable on redemption of temporary currency notes, £12,000 advanced by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Colony for services in the United Kingdom, and £7,825 overdrawn at the Colonial Bank.

PUBLIC DEBT.

14. The Public Debt stood at £155,799. The first debt amounting to £3,000 at 5 per cent. interest was incurred in 1885 for immigration purposes and will be finally repaid in 1922. In 1887 £10,000 was borrowed for the purchase by the Colony of preference shares in the St. Lucia Central Sugar Factory Company. Not long after, however, the Company came to grief, and the factory passed into other hands. In the same year a loan of £70,000 was raised for improving the Castries harbour. Both these loans were incurred at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest and will be finally repaid in 1931. The harbour was dredged and substantial concrete wharves were built. The outlay for the purpose, besides providing excellent accommodation for shipping, has been the means of adding a considerable source of income to the Colony from the coaling business that the facilities of the improved harbour made it possible to establish.

Other loans raised were £66,479 at 4 per cent. under the authority of Ordinance No. 19 of 1892 for public works, including a loan of £10,000 to the Castries Town Board. This loan will be finally repaid in 1944. Also loans amounting to £19,000 at 4 per cent. for constructing new waterworks for Castries, to be repaid in 1948. In 1916 a further loan of £30,000 at 5 per cent. interest was raised for the construction and improvement of roads and bridges. The Colony is now reaping the advantages of this well-considered outlay. Communication that was previously difficult, even on horseback, has been rendered practicable for motor cars, and parts of the island that were formerly almost unknown are at the present time within easy reach by comfortable conveyance.

Two small loans of £700 and £5,000 at 5 per cent. each were recently raised. The first in 1917 for the construction of a new wing for private paying patients at the Victoria Hospital, and the second in 1920 for the purchase of a motor launch for coastal service and for the establishment of a motor-bus service across the island.

The sinking funds towards the redemption of these several loans amounted to £37,807 at the close of the year.

REVENUE.

15. The total local revenue of the Colony was estimated at £95,137, but the actual receipts were only £72,227. Owing to the restricted condition of trade and employment there was very

little money in circulation, and the revenue was bound to suffer in consequence.

The chief items of income are derived from Customs duties on imports and exports, excise duties, and income tax. The receipts from these sources were:—

Import duties	... ..	£26,550	
Export „	... ..	1,135	
Excise „	... ..	11,341	
Income Tax	... ..	8,963	
			<hr/> 47,989

Other principal receipts were:—

Licences—Spirit dealers, vehicles, etc....	3,119	
Stamp duties	2,320	
Succession duties	2,378	
Interest on investments	2,715	
Fees of Court	6,201	
		<hr/> 16,733

Various other items of local revenue amounted to

7,505

Making the total revenue for the year

72,227

To this sum may be added the grant received from the Rockefeller Foundation International Health Commission for carrying on the campaign for the eradication of ankylostomiasis in the Colony

1,950

Making a total revenue from all sources of

£74,177

The import duties comprise specific rates, principally on food-stuffs, and an *ad valorem* duty, chiefly on manufactured goods. The tariff of duties was revised on 16th August, 1921, and the existing duties are enumerated in the schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance of St. Lucia, No. 11 of 1921. The Ordinance prescribes a general tariff and fixes the *ad valorem* duties at 15 per cent. All British goods verified as such under a certificate of origin to be the produce or manufacture of any part of the Empire are subject to the preferential abatement of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. of the general tariff rates.

The export duties are levied on sugar, molasses, cocoa, and lime products on a graduated scale according to prices at the time of exportation, and duties are also levied on certain other miscellaneous minor products exported, including bay leaves, coconuts, coconut-oil, copra, hardwood, logwood and pimento wood.

The excise duty is fixed at 5s. a proof-gallon and so in proportion for any greater or less quantity on spirits manufactured in the Colony. The only spirit so manufactured is rum. Included in the excise duty is a trade duty at the rate of 1s. 8d. a proof-gallon on all spirits imported or made locally and obtained for sale.

The income tax is payable on a graduated scale commencing at the low rate of 1d. per pound on incomes of £50, to 3s. 6d. per pound on incomes exceeding £10,000. Incomes under £50 are

not subject to the tax. The income tax roll in 1921 contained 616 taxed incomes out of a population of 51,505 persons, showing that only 1·19 per cent. were the happy possessors of an income of £50 and upwards. 53·9 per cent. of the taxed incomes ranged from £50 to £100. In the United Kingdom in 1920, 52·2 per cent. of the taxed incomes ranged from £500 to £1,000.

An item of revenue not shown in the Colony's annual estimates is a tax on houses in rural districts, which brings in about £2,300 a year. The tax was levied for the purpose of meeting the interest and sinking fund payable on any loans raised for the reconstruction and improvement of existing roads and for the construction and maintenance of new roads and bridges. Under the law imposing the tax the receipts are credited to a special "Roads Fund," but the law will be amended, and the tax will be shown in future as part of the Colony's revenue, but will be utilized for the same purposes.

In the present state of the Colony's development, taxation to secure a revenue of £95,000 is a severe strain. At that figure the taxation per head would be £1 16s. 10½d., but the earning capacity of the large majority of the population does not exceed £12 a year, and the burden of taxation therefore falls on a small minority. A budget of £95,000, the estimate for 1921, can only be realised in abnormal periods of prosperity. In view of the general depression that prevailed during the year, it was not considered expedient to impose additional taxation to meet the deficit.

EXPENDITURE.

16. The expenditure for 1921 was placed at £97,531 including the grant of £1,934 from the Rockefeller International Health Commission, and the actual expenditure amounted to £102,928, being £28,751 in excess of the actual revenue. With a shrinking income it became necessary to exercise careful economy, and savings were effected to the extent of £3,156, but several services had been under-estimated in the mistaken belief that prices of imported commodities would fall during the year, and supplementary votes had to be granted. The Colony also suffered a loss of £2,102 on the sale of investments. Retrenchment is essential because the expenditure has reached a figure beyond normal resources, but it is not easy to see where considerable savings are possible without the withdrawal of progressive measures that have become the every-day conveniences of life. The civil establishment is not overstaffed for the various duties required, and the salaries are not excessive compared with the higher emoluments of corresponding officials in larger and more prosperous Colonies. A few amalgamations are possible as opportunities may occur, but any reductions made in salaries or in staff will tend to less efficiency. For want of funds no new works of improvement could be undertaken during the year, and only expenditure on bare maintenance was possible.

CURRENCY, BANKS, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

17. The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of this Colony. Local Treasury notes of the value of 10s. and 5s. are also in circulation. Gold and notes of the United States pass current.

The Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have each a branch bank in the Colony, and they each have a five-dollar note circulation.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

IMPORTS.

18. The value of the imports and exports amounted to £446,387, as compared with £983,417 in the previous year. The imports and exports were respectively £528,044 and £455,413 in 1920 as against £217,507 and £228,882 in 1921. These figures show the slump that occurred in the trade of the Colony in the latter year.

The origin of the imports was as under:—

	£	£
United Kingdom	66,348	
Canada	47,790	
Newfoundland	2,145	
India	2,210	
Other British Countries	9,115	
		127,608
United States of America	68,968	
Other Foreign Countries	13,831	
		82,799
Parcels Post		7,100
		<u>£217,507</u>

The imports from the United Kingdom were chiefly manufactured fabrics, machinery and implements. The United States had the lead, however, in cotton piece-goods with a supply of 493,428 yards, value £11,878, as compared with 96,149 yards, value £5,438, from the United Kingdom. Notwithstanding the preferential abatement of duty on British goods, it seems that the United States can compete with a cheap class of manufacture that meets local requirements. The principal imports from Canada were wheaten flour, value £27,981, fish of all kinds, dried and pickled, £9,468, matches £1,132, butter £945, and cement £854. India supplied rice to the value of £2,132.

The imports from the United States included 5,501 tons of bituminous coal, value £16,523, apparel, cotton fabrics, and haberdashery £13,430, bags and bagging £3,678, unmanufactured

tobacco £2,117, motor cars and parts £2,266, oils, edible, £5,059, illuminating £4,021, other various goods £21,874.

Trinidad supplied the bulk of the motor spirit imported, 12,343 gallons, value £1,622, as against 2,825 gallons, value £328, from the United States.

Canada is now participating largely in the supply of goods that in pre-war days were obtained from the United States. All wheaten flour now comes from Canada, and the imports of manufactured articles show an increase.

The imports from foreign countries, apart from the United States, were chiefly obtained from France £5,087, Holland £1,383, Chile £2,825, and Venezuela £1,153. Goods of the value of £102 were imported from Germany.

EXPORTS.

19. The total exports, including the produce of the Colony and imported goods exported, were as under:—

	£	£
To the United Kingdom	64,825	
Canada	7,051	
Other Parts of British Empire ...	20,829	
		92,705
United States of America	70,675	
Other Foreign Countries	769	
		71,444
Bunker coal		64,000
Ships' stores		733
Total		<u>£228,882</u>

Of these exports, £138,731 represented the produce of the Colony, and £90,151 imported goods exported. The destination of these exports is shown as follows:—

	Produce of the Colony.	Imports exported.	
	£	£	
United Kingdom	50,825	14,000	
Canada	6,979	72	
Other Parts of British Empire ...	9,850	10,979	
			25,051
United States of America	70,475	200	
Other Foreign Countries	602	167	
			367
Bunker coal			64,000
Ships' stores			733
Totals	<u>£138,731</u>		<u>£90,151</u>

Specie in silver coin was exported to the value of £17,000: to the United Kingdom £14,000, and to Antigua £3,000.

The figures below show the quantities and values of the principal produce of the Colony exported in 1921 as compared with 1920.

				1921.		1920.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
				cwt.	£	cwt.	£
Cocoa	...	...	...	12,365	25,211	8,966	43,944
Coconuts	...	...	...	171,660	900	327,240	2,114
				lb.		lb.	
Cotton, raw	...	...	...	5,599	623	4,345	717
Honey	...	...	...	29,526	473	61,086	2,119
Hides and skins	...	...	...	695	122	4,983	1,188
				brls.		brls.	
Limes, fresh	...	...	...	1,858	1,775	808	780
				gal.		gal.	
Lime products	...	...	...	37,054	9,831	29,024	10,531
Molasses and syrup	...	...	...	103,676	5,325	199,366	28,159
				cwt.		cwt.	
Sugar	...	...	...	64,760	80,820	80,548	146,316

These figures show the general reduction in 1921 of the market values of all the Colony's produce.

SHIPPING.

20. No report on St. Lucia would be complete without special reference to Port Castries as a coaling station. The harbour is almost land-locked, is a mile in length, and available for all classes of vessels. The harbour is well lighted. On one side of the entrance is a flashing light visible 12 miles, and on the other side is an occulting light visible 12 miles, and there are also leading lights into the harbour. A concrete wharf, 650 ft. in length with a minimum depth of $27\frac{1}{2}$ ft., provides accommodation for easy coaling. Steamers lie alongside and are bunkered by native labour at an average rate of 150 tons an hour or with greater celerity when required. Fresh water is also supplied to shipping from hydrants on the wharf.

Ten years ago the tonnage of shipping entered and cleared amounted to 3,490,042 tons, and Port Castries ranked thirteenth in the list of principal shipping ports in the Dominions and Colonies. In no single port in Australia or New Zealand or in the West Indies did the tonnage equal that of Port Castries, and was only exceeded in ports in Canada at Victoria, B.C. In recent years the shipping has declined, and in 1921 a marked drop occurred. Only 177 steamers called, of which 54 took bunker coal.

The following figures give the shipping entered and cleared in 1921 :—

		Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam vessels	...	177	385,384	177	385,384	354	770,768
Sailing „	...	325	9,933	326	10,010	651	19,943
		502	395,317	503	395,394	1,005	790,711

The port was visited by six warships: H.M.S. "Cambrian" and the United States mine-laying squadron of five vessels, of which U.S.S. "San Francisco" was the flagship.

STEAMSHIP SERVICES.

21. Steamers calling regularly at St. Lucia are the Royal Mail steamers subsidized by Canada for service between Canada and the West Indies, the Furness Withy steamers known as the Quebec Line, the Raporel Line running between New York and the West Indies, and the inter-colonial French steamer connecting at Martinique with the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

These steamers afford frequent communication with Trinidad and Barbados, where transatlantic connections can be obtained.

Freight from the United Kingdom and Europe is dropped at Barbados and conveyed to St. Lucia on sailing schooners that constantly ply between the two islands. Steamers of the Harrison Line call at irregular intervals for the Colony's exports to the United Kingdom.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

22. Only a small portion of St. Lucia is at present under cultivation. Extensive areas of Crown lands still exist in forest, and a good deal of land is not fit for cultivation. Selected parts are sold out on easy terms to applicants, but there is not sufficient population for all the arable land. The island is, however, well favoured for agricultural development. There are suitable soils for all kinds of tropical economic plants, and agriculture is not therefore restricted by the adaptability of the land to any single or particular kind of cultivation. There are excellent lands in the valleys for sugar-cane. Cocoa grows well in certain localities. Lands in many parts are well suited for lime cultivation, and coconuts thrive admirably around the sea coast. Cotton is also grown to some small extent, but has never been seriously taken up. The principal staples are sugar, cocoa and limes. The four sugar usines should be capable of producing some 15,000 to 20,000 tons, but with the capital and labour available the average total output does not exceed 5,000 tons, and in 1921 the exports fell to 3,238 tons. Besides the usines, there are many small sugar estates. With the sudden fall in market prices in 1921, the industry met with a severe collapse from which it will take some time to recover. A considerable quantity of fancy syrup and molasses is also produced. It is estimated that 4,450 acres are in sugar cultivation.

There are several cocoa estates that do well, and many petty proprietors possess small holdings, but St. Lucia is not a cocoa island, and not much extension of this product appears to be practicable. When a few years back prices for lime products

became attractive, cocoa in some parts was abandoned for lime growing, and attention is now only paid to cocoa on established estates. The cocoa market also collapsed in 1921. Prices that had reached as high as 128s. per cwt. in 1920 fell as low as 40s. per cwt. in 1921. The lands in cocoa cultivation are estimated at 6,000 acres, but this acreage does not include small scattered holdings.

Lime cultivation is a new industry in St. Lucia and has made rapid development. Several planters have established lime estates and have erected factories for concentrating the raw juice, and the Government has provided a factory for the benefit of small growers. With any encouragement in prices this industry would be extensively increased, as the soil appears to be specially favourable. The present area in cultivation is estimated at 2,500 acres.

Great hopes are placed on coconuts, and this cultivation is being rapidly extended. In a few years coconuts and copra will figure largely in the Colony's exports.

There are four rum distilleries which produced 51,385 proof-gallons. The local consumption was 45,362 proof-gallons, yielding an excise duty of £11,341. Only 63 proof-gallons were exported.

Bay-oil is also manufactured. There were three distilleries in operation. The bay-leaf tree is plentiful in the island, and the outlook for this minor industry is encouraging.

Bee-keeping is carried on to some extent but does not seem to increase.

The forests contain an abundant supply of native wood suitable for building purposes, and hard wood of various kinds for furniture and decorative work. Very little wood is now imported. Native wood is used for the construction of nearly all buildings.

There is plenty of room in the island for further enterprise, and the door is open to settlers with moderate capital. Banana plantations might be established, and a certain amount of stock breeding is possible.

23. The Agricultural Department has done very useful work for the Colony, and was instrumental in promoting the development of the lime industry. The Botanic station at Reunion has afforded great help by the distribution of economic plants. The grounds of the station are beautifully laid out with specimen and ornamental plants, and would not be out of place in a corner of Kew.

The establishment of the West Indian Agricultural College in Trinidad will make a landmark in agriculture, and will supply the means locally that have been long necessary for obtaining technical training and scientific knowledge in tropical agriculture.

EDUCATION, NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

24. There are 51 primary schools; 26 for infants (ages 4 to 10), 22 for juveniles (ages 8 to 16), and 3 for infants and juveniles combined. All these schools are denominational, 44 being Roman

Catholic, 4 Anglican and 3 Wesleyan. All receive grants-in-aid from public funds.

The number of pupils on the rolls on 31st December, 1921, was 6,603; the average attendance for the year was 4,589. The Government grant for primary schools for 1921 was £4,665, and the voluntary contributions amounted to £1,442, including estimated rental value of school-houses.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14, but local conditions do not render it expedient to be exacting in the enforcement of the law.

There are two drawbacks to the progress of elementary education. The first is the inadequacy of the pay of teachers to attract men of the right class to take up teaching as a profession, and the second is the want of an institution for the systematic training of teachers. When the Colony can afford to supply these wants all other difficulties in the betterment of education in the primary schools will disappear.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

25. There are two secondary schools, one for boys and one for girls. St. Mary's College, the school for boys, is maintained by the Roman Catholic Church assisted by a grant from public funds of £400 per annum. There are seventeen scholarships for boys from the elementary schools given by the Government. The number on the roll at 31st December, 1921, was 105, and the average attendance for the year was 100.

The girls' school is administered by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and receives a Government grant of £175 per annum. 130 girls were on the roll at 31st December, 1921, and the average attendance for the year was 115.

Both schools prepare their pupils for the Cambridge University Local Examinations held in July. Six boys and two girls obtained Senior Certificates. Nineteen boys and eight girls obtained Junior Certificates, including five with honours.

ST. LUCIA SCHOLARSHIP.

26. An annual scholarship known as the St. Lucia Scholarship was established in 1918, of the value of £175, tenable at any University or College in Europe or Canada, or any Agricultural, Scientific or Technical College or Institution in Europe, Canada or the United States, approved by the Governor in Council for a period of not less than three years and not more than five years according to the time required for the completion of the course of study sanctioned by the Governor in Council. The Scholarship is awarded on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination to candidates having the requisite local and residential qualifications. Up to 1921 three scholarships had been awarded.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS.

27. There is only one newspaper "The Voice of St. Lucia," published bi-weekly. An official gazette confined exclusively to Government notices and publications is issued by the Government every alternate Saturday, and special gazettes are published at other times when necessary.

The Government also publishes an Annual Blue Book giving general statistical information of the Colony.

LOCAL FORCES AND POLICE.

LOCAL FORCES.

28. The Police Force is practically the only local armed body. The Volunteer Force, formerly efficient and popular, has since the War become moribund, and exists now only on paper. Some of the men are still willing to practice rifle shooting on the range, but no inducement in the near future will cause any revival of interest in a volunteer movement.

29. The Police Force is composed of three European ex-Army officers and 70 non-commissioned officers and men, all natives of St. Lucia or of other West Indian Colonies. The men are trained in rifle exercises and go through an annual musketry course, and there is a maxim-gun section. Besides the headquarters station in Castries, eleven district stations are located in different parts of the island, but for purposes of economy two were closed during the year. A number of rural constables are enrolled to assist the police in country districts.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

30. Opportunities for mail communication with the United Kingdom, Europe and New York are frequent, but not on regular scheduled dates. Mails from the United Kingdom and Europe are usually landed by transatlantic steamers calling at Barbados, and are conveyed from thence to the Colony by the first inter-colonial steamer or by schooner, and similarly mails from the Colony are sent to Barbados to connect with steamers proceeding from there to Europe.

An inland postal service is maintained between Castries and all the district towns and villages.

Telegraphic communication is provided by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

The Admiralty Wireless Station has been transferred to the local Government, and will be operated by the Government for shipping and commercial business.

There is a Government telephone system extending to all parts of the island with ten exchanges and 204 connections.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATION.

31. The means of communication in the island have greatly improved in recent years. With the completion of the Castries-Dennery road it is now possible to drive by motor car from Castries across the island to Dennery on the east coast, and from thence round the southern end of the island to Soufriere on the west coast, a distance of 55 miles. This road facilitates easy touch with important parts of the island and with large plantations that were formerly difficult to reach from Castries, and gives improved access for agricultural development in the interior.

The Government maintains 125 miles of main road, 127 miles of byways and 77 of unclassified roads, a total of 331 miles, of which 95 are suitable for motor car traffic.

A passenger bus service runs bi-weekly between Castries and Dennery.

Communication with the west or leeward parts was maintained by the Government motor launch of 50 tons which plied daily except on Sundays and Wednesdays between Castries and Soufriere, proceeding twice a week as far as Vieuxfort at the extreme southern end of the island.

The luxury of a motor car is now an ordinary method of travel where less than ten years ago only a tedious journey on horseback was possible. There are about 80 motor cars and motor lorries in the Colony, and motor cars are available for hire.

MEDICAL.

32. The Medical Staff comprised a Resident Surgeon in charge of the Victoria Hospital and six district officers, one of whom is Health Officer and has special charge of all sanitation activities. The staff was strengthened during the year by the new appointment of a Chief Medical Officer. The presence of such an officer with time at his disposal to exercise general supervision and to advise the Government should prove of great use in directing measures for the improvement of health conditions in the Colony. The Chief Medical Officer represented St. Lucia at the Medical Conference held in British Guiana in the middle of the year.

Owing to the low salaries provided, difficulty was experienced in obtaining the services of medical men to fill vacancies. It has been recognized that when the Colony's finances will permit, the emoluments of the Medical Officers must be increased.

The International Health Commission continued their operations during the year over a considerable area of the Colony. If effective sanitation can be maintained, this philanthropic campaign should prove a lasting benefit to the health of the labouring classes.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

33. The Victoria Hospital or principal hospital is located within half a mile of Castries.

The staff consists of a Resident Surgeon in charge with a European Nurse Matron assisted by a good class of native nurses.

The number of patients admitted during the year was 1,575—males 653, and females 922. Of these, 1,006 were discharged cured, 133 relieved, and 111 died. The mortality-rate is always large for the reason that cases are frequently sent to hospital in a moribund and dying condition; 327 surgical operations were performed. The Chief Medical Officer reports that the list of operations “shows a wide range in variety and required considerable skill and knowledge for their successful performance,” the percentage cured being almost 80 per cent. and the mortality about 4 per cent., which doubtless would have been lower had some of these cases been sent in earlier.

The institution has a good reputation, and persons of the best class needing surgical or medical treatment seek admission.

There are two district hospitals and a casualty ward at Soufriere, but for economical necessity are used only for cases of accident or emergency.

The Lunatic Asylum is a large building formerly the military ordnance store at Toc and taken over by the Government and converted to its present use. The institution contained a daily average of 37·6 male inmates and 54·5 females. Two were discharged cured and 16 died.

The Pauper, Yaws and Leper Asylums are located in the Soufriere district, and are under the supervision of the Medical Officer in charge of that district and a Visiting Advisory Committee. The buildings have a creditable appearance, and the institutions are well maintained. There were 97 inmates in the Pauper Asylum at the close of the year, the daily average was 68 males and 28·9 females. Ten were discharged during the year, and 28 died. The daily average in the yaws and leper divisions was 18·7. No deaths occurred, and nine patients were discharged cured.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

34. The year was one of great financial depression. The cessation of work for a time on some of the sugar factories, the slump in the coaling business, the fall in the price of all the Colony's products, and the general curtailment of employment with no encouraging outlook caused much anxiety, but at no time did any gloom prevail. It was felt that the depression would not last, and that in course of time conditions would improve. The Colony fortunately possesses an abundant native food supply of fish, vegetables and fruit that served the wants of the poorer classes who might otherwise have suffered privation had they been obliged to depend on the purchase of imported foodstuffs.

VISIT OF THE HON. E. L. WOOD.

35. Perhaps encroachment on the record for 1922 may be permitted to refer here to the visit of the Hon. E. L. Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, as the writer of this report was at the time in charge of the Government of the Colony. Mr. Wood, accompanied by the Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. R. A. Wiseman of the Colonial Office, landed from H.M.S. "Valerian" on 8th January in the afternoon, and was met on the wharf by the Acting Administrator and Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, principal officials and leading residents, and proceeded to Government House where they were entertained during their visit to the Colony. On the following day, Mr. Wood received a deputation from the Representative Government Association, and gave interviews to residents who called to see him on various public matters. In the afternoon he attended a public meeting on Columbus Square where he was presented with several addresses, and made a speech that was received with acclamation by the large assembled audience. At a garden party at Government House later that afternoon, the visitors had the opportunity of meeting the local society. On the following day Mr. Wood received a deputation of Medical Officers, and then went with his party by motor launch to the town of Soufriere where, on landing, he was presented with an address and made a speech in reply. The party then proceeded to the Volcanic Crater and were taken by guides to see the boiling cauldrons. Returning to Castries there was an official dinner and ball at Government House, and in the early morning of the 11th the party embarked on H.M.S. "Valerian" for St. Vincent.

To the great majority of the inhabitants, Mr. Wood's visit was viewed only in the sense that he was a person of great importance, and that some unknown benefit to the people might be expected to result from his visit, but to the educated portion of the community the real object of the mission was well understood, and satisfaction was felt that the Secretary of State had sent out a representative of Mr. Wood's standing to acquire on the spot personal knowledge of conditions in the Colony.

Mr. Wood and his party will be remembered for their urbanity to all with whom they came in contact, and their visit will be spoken of hereafter as a great epoch in the political history of the Colony.

E. D. LABORDE,
Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,
16th August, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1106	Seychelles	1920
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	"
1112	Uganda	1920-1921
1113	Leeward Islands	1920
1114	Nigeria	1920-1921
1115	Mauritius	1921
1116	Jamaica	1920
1117	Cyprus	1921
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	"
1120	Gambia	1920
1121	Gambia	"
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1921
1123	British Guiana	1920-1921
1124	Grenada	1921
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	"
1132	Bermuda	1921-1922
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921
1134	Barbados	1921-1922
1135	Trinidad	"
1136	British Honduras	1921
1137	Ceylon	"
1138	Swaziland	"
1139	Hongkong	"
1140	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

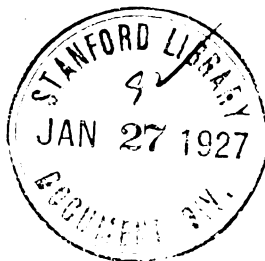
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1142.

ASHANTI.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1107.)



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FINANCIAL.

1. For financial administration the Gold Coast Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories though constitutionally separate and distinct are treated as a single unit. It is possible, therefore, to obtain a very rough estimate only of the financial position of Ashanti.

REVENUE.

2 Local receipts amounted to £57,200 of which the most important items were :—

	£
Motor licences	1,770
Spirit licences	5 990
Court fines and fees	8,700
Rents of Government land	7,150
Mining Royalties estimated at.. .. .	15,000

The only item which shows a decrease of any importance is the revenue from Firearm and Ammunition licences which fell from £5,400 to £1,300. This is due to the fact that five year licences were issued in 1920.

Apart from that item there is a general increase in receipts all round, particularly in Court Fees and Rent of Government lands which increased by £2,500 and £1,000 respectively.

3. Import duties on goods landed at Seccndee for Ashanti are estimated at £112,000 as compared with £332,000 last year. The duty on spirits amounted approximately to £37,000 as against £34,660 last year.

4. The quantity of cocoa and kola railed from Ashanti during the year was 44,000 tons and 2,300 tons respectively. This means a revenue from export duties of £216,000.

5. The proportion of the Railway gross receipts which can be fairly credited to Ashanti was estimated in 1920 at £181,000. For the year under review the sum of £250,000 is held to be a fair estimate.

6. Thus the revenue of Ashanti from sources easily assignable is roughly as follows :—

	£
Local Receipts	57,200
Import Duties	112,000
Export Duties	216,000
Railway Receipts	250,000
Total ..	<u>£635,200</u>

7. It must be remembered that statistics of Ashanti Imports and Exports are kept at Secondee only, though other ports serve Ashanti to some small extent. A share also of Post Office Revenue and of the Interest on General Account is due to Ashanti.

EXPENDITURE.

8. The local expenditure in Ashanti for all Departments is approximately £132,200. The Headquarters of the Gold Coast Regiment, of the Forestry and Veterinary Departments, are established in Coomassie, and some of the expenditure connected with these establishments should properly be distributed over the Gold Coast Colony and the Northern Territories. Part also of the expenditure on the Coomassie-Tamale Road and on Ashanti and Northern Territories Judiciary should be borne by the Northern Territories. On the other hand, Ashanti has to bear its share of Headquarters and general charges, of which the heaviest would probably be on account of Posts and Telegraphs and Public Debt charges.

9. As regards Railway expenditure, including working expenses and all interest charges on loan works a fair approximate sum for 1920 was considered to be £130,000. During the year under review the sum of £163,000 is considered a fair charge.

10. In 1920 the financial year synchronized with the calendar year. In 1921, however, the financial year commenced to run from April to April, and it would be misleading therefore, to compare the expenditure of one completed financial year with nine months of one financial year and three months of another. There has, however, been one obvious increase in local expenditure in Ashanti and that is on Political Administration. The increase excluding passages to and from England, is roughly £8,000 and is due to an increase in Staff. It has become possible now to re-open stations which were closed down during the war.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

11. During 1921 it would appear that Ashanti paid its way and was also able to make a contribution towards the general development of the Gold Coast.

TRADE.

12. The overseas trade of Ashanti differs little from that of the Gold Coast Colony, which is dealt with by the Comptroller of Customs in his Annual Trade Report of the Gold Coast. It may be noted here, however, that the value of goods cleared at Secondee for Ashanti was £721,000. For the first nine months of the year the imports were exceptionally low, but during the last quarter goods to the value of over £280,000 were imported through Secondee for Ashanti, presaging it is to be hoped a general revival in trade.

13. As regards local trade it is reported from the Western Province that Kintampo alone shows any sign of vitality "elsewhere people are again learning to become self-supporting and to be content with a minimum of luxuries." Cattle have reached Kintampo in larger number than ever before. The reason for the improvement in trade at Kintampo is due mainly to the fact that a detachment of the Regiment is now being stationed there and that the station is regaining something of its pre-war importance as an administrative centre. The only cocoa coming from the Province is collected at Nkoranza which lies on a motor road. The mainstay at present of the Province is the cola export trade. Two motor roads are now under construction from Coomassie to the Western Province and as they advance the trade prospects of the Province will brighten considerably.

In the Eastern Province the outlook is much more promising. There has been an export by rail of 44,000 tons of cocoa and 2,300 tons of cola during the year. This means that a good deal of money has passed into the hands of the people. In addition a pretty large sum in wages has been paid out by the Railway Construction. Trade going North shows a considerable improvement, such as increases of 3,000 loads of cola, 3,000 loads of English trade goods, 2,300 loads of cloth, 1,800 loads of Kerosene. The trade from the North shows a decrease in cattle 2,400 head, hides 6,000, but increases in sheep 5,000, goats 4,500, and Shea butter 600 loads. From Kratchi it is reported that there is a serious decline in the Addah salt trade, that the Addah salt traders cannot compete with the salt imported by the French.

AGRICULTURE.

14. There are three Agricultural stations in Ashanti, one at Coomassie, another at Juaso the headquarters of the Ashanti-Akim District in the Eastern Province, and the third at Ejura, also in the Eastern Province, outside the forest-belt and alongside the Coomassie-Tamale Road. The various experiments conducted at these stations are fully explained in the Annual Report of the Agricultural Department.

15. The Officers of the Department have covered the greater part of Ashanti during the year on tours of instruction. The chief topic has been the improvement of the cocoa industry. In certain likely areas an attempt has been made to form Cocoa Growers' Associations for the encouragement of combined and co-operative effort to improve the quality of cocoa. A promising start has been made at Mampon, Bompata, Tasamenso and Peki; rules have been drawn up and many farmers have promised to join.

Cocoa.

16. Cocoa is the foundation of the peace and prosperity of Ashanti, and it would seem that the cocoa industry though it needs careful watching and nursing is on a pretty solid basis, for in spite of the low and disappointing prices that ruled throughout the year the quantity of cocoa railed from Ashanti stations was 44,000 tons as against 37,500 tons in 1920.

17. The crop has been a heavy one the increased rainfall having had apparently the effect of increasing the weight of the bean. The quality at the beginning of the season was reported to be the best hitherto prepared on the Gold Coast, but it fetched perhaps the lowest prices recorded. This was a serious disappointment to the farmers and as the prices remained low, they allowed the cocoa to remain too long on the trees or left it in heaps on the ground. It was natural therefore, that as the season progressed and there was no improvement in price the quality deteriorated. This is all the more to be regretted for there had been an obvious effort on the part of farmers to improve the grade. Even now, however, Mr. Evans, Provincial Superintendent of Agriculture, whose experience of cocoa production on the Gold Coast is unrivalled is of opinion that if manufacturers would offer 1s. or 2s. per. cwt. more for the better grade of cocoa the general quality throughout Ashanti would soon show a very noticeable improvement.

18. Insect pests and fungoid diseases show no reduction in the toll they take from the crops. The greatest danger is apprehended from Sankonabe and Brown Pod disease, which are both prevalent over most of the cocoa growing area. In some districts Brown Pod disease is reported to have affected 15% of the pods. Until some economic and comprehensive method is devised for dealing with pests and diseases there are likely to be recurring periods of anxiety in connection with the industry.

19. Some interesting statistics have been collected and investigated by the Agricultural Department and a rough but only a rough estimate of the cost and profits of cocoa production to the farmer can be arrived at. Farms are cleared as a rule three times a year, and the clearing is carried out by hand labour or under contract. The cost works at about 1s. 7d. a load. Picking, drying and fermenting of cocoa is the work of the farmer and his family. The cost of head transport per load per mile varies from 1½d. for long distances to 3½d. for short distances, the cost of lorry transport is 1½d. per load per mile. If the cocoa has to be carried 20 miles by carrier and then 20 miles by lorry to a railway station the expenses per load will be:

	s.	d.
Clearing	1	7
Carriers at 2d. per mile	3	4
Lorry at 1½d. per mile	1	10
	<hr/>	
	6	9
	<hr/>	

20. The average yield per tree on a well kept native farm is estimated at 1½ lbs. in the principal fruiting season. (In the Agricultural station at Coomassie the average yield is 2 lbs.) A native farmer possesses on the average about 5,000 trees which will produce 146 loads. If the price per load at the railway station is 12s. per load, the farmer clears 5s. 3d. per load or £38 6s. 0d. for his whole farm. This amount is the fund which pays the cost of the personal exertions of himself and his family and supplies the

profits of the industry. These figures deal with the principal fruiting season only. As regards the mid-season, however, not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. per tree can be fairly expected, that is about 20 loads, valued according to the preceding calculations at £5 5s. 0d. Not a few farmers have more than one farm, and in any case work on the farm does not occupy the farmer and his family from year's end to year's end.

In the case of "strangers" they are called upon to pay tribute of 1d. per tree to the Chief on whose tribal lands they have their farms. This tribute means 2s. 6d. per load and if rigidly enforced is sufficient to retain most of the land and cocoa farming in the hands of the owners of the soil.

21. At a time of low prices farms that are some days distant from a buying centre are not likely to produce any appreciable profit. This has been the case during the year with the cocoa farms in the Western Province. It was not unnatural, therefore, that the visits of the Agricultural Officers to those outlying districts should have been received with apathy, but even so it is reported that in some cases the advice given has been heeded and that some improvement in the care of farms could be observed. In a couple of years it is hoped that two motor roads already under construction one running West and the other North-West into the Western Province will at least reach 60 miles and the advance of these roads (the main difficulty hitherto has been the bridging) will very materially affect the prospects of the cocoa farmers in the neighbourhood. There is, however, a certain amount of land planted with cocoa which cannot yield any fair profit except in a "boom." With price of cocoa between 12 and 15 shillings at railway stations there is bound to be a limit beyond which it cannot be profitable to grow cocoa and where development must await the extension of the railway system. Possibly the realisation of this fact may encourage migration for farming purposes to the uncultivated areas in proximity to motor roads and railways.

COLA.

22. Fortunately in those areas where the low prices of cocoa and the comparatively high cost of transport made cocoa farming for the time being unprofitable there was an alternative in the cola trade. It has this advantage over the cocoa industry that it is unaffected by the changes and chances of the European market. More attention it is reported was being paid to the cultivation of the trees and in some cases clearings were being made for plantations of cola. The price remained the same as in 1920 and though the exports by railway shew a reduction of about 700 tons the traffic northwards has considerably increased.

The industry is entirely in native hands from start to finish and it is one of which there is not a great deal of information available.

RICE.

23. The cultivation of rice continued to extend and it is interesting to note that the locally grown rice commands a much higher price than the imported rice. The experiments at the Ejura station serve to show that at any rate as a Government undertaking the cultivation of rice as a main crop even at its present high retail price is not a business proposition. The natives usually plant it as a second crop after maize and it is also found that it can be grown successfully after ground-nuts.

FOOD STUFFS.

24. In view of the scarcity in 1920 considerable attention was given to the cultivation of food crops. The price of yams fell considerably though it was high enough to give a good profit to the farmers in the open country near motor roads.

25. A motor tractor was experimented with at Ejura for ploughing the land. The experiment shows that so far the tractor cannot be regarded as an economic possibility in local agriculture owing to the high price of kerosene and the quantity it was necessary to use. It was found also that stoppages were frequent owing to hidden roots and stumps and it was necessary to keep two men constantly employed to remove these obstructions.

MINING INDUSTRY.

26. The amount of gold produced during the year from Mines in Ashanti was 85,019 ounces valued at £361,360 as against 70,719 ounces valued at £300,412, the output for 1920. Two Mines only are producing, viz.: the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation and the Obuasi Mines, Ltd., but a certain amount of prospecting and testing of Concessions was carried out during the year. There were no dredging operations undertaken, but they are likely to be resumed in the Offin River at an early date.

The average amount of labour employed in the Mining Industry in Ashanti is as follows :—

	Surface.	Underground.	Total.
Europeans ..	55	14	69
Natives ..	2,504	929	3,433

LEGISLATION.

27. Seventeen Ordinances were enacted during the year. Of these the most important were :—

- No. 7 .. An Ordinance, applying to Ashanti the Insurance Funds Ordinance, 1889, and the Companies Ordinance, 1906, as enacted for the Gold Coast Colony.

No. 8 .. An Ordinance to facilitate the enforcement in Ashanti of Maintenance Orders made in England and Ireland and *vice versa*.

No. 14 .. An Ordinance to provide for the Detention and Deportation of certain persons convicted of Desecrating the Golden Stool of Ashanti.

28. Six Rules under various Ordinances were made. The most important was Rule 6 of 1921, which provided for a system of locality marks on mahogany felled for export.

29. Various Orders were made, the most important being an Order appointing the Police Magistrate, Coomassie, and the Officer in charge of the Treasury, Commissioners of Stamp Duties for Coomassie, and an Order extending generally throughout Ashanti the Civil Jurisdiction of District Commissioners from £50 to £100.

JUDICIAL.

30. The number of cases tried in the Courts of Ashanti is as follows :—

						Civil.	Criminal.
EASTERN PROVINCE.							
Provincial Commissioner	..	..	..	..	..	46	13
District Commissioner, Coomassie	..	..	..	..	..	74	915
District Commissioner, Obuasi	..	..	..	..	..	662	910
do. Juaso	..	..	..	..	..	338	271
do. Ejura	..	..	..	..	..	145	122
do. Krachi	..	..	..	..	..	2	190
WESTERN PROVINCE.							
Sunyani	..	..	..	..	..	77	224
Goaso	..	..	..	..	..	22	51
Wenchi	..	..	..	..	..	97	439
Kintampo	..	..	..	..	..	13	102
Police Magistrate, Coomassie	..	..	..	..	..	1,022	2,655
Circuit Judge	..	..	..	..	..	38	103
Chief Commissioner	..	..	..	..	..	24	—
						<hr/> 2,560	<hr/> 5,995

These statistics shew an increase of 1,294 Civil Cases and 2,219 Criminal Cases over the figures for 1920. One of the principal causes of this development is no doubt the slump in trade and consequent unemployment. On the Criminal side this has led to theft, embezzlement, robbery, and on the Civil side to the multiplication of debt cases, for loans have had to be called in.

31. Fees and fines amounted to £8,449 as against £5,147 in 1920, and this in spite of a decrease amounting to £1,779 under Fines in the Coomassie District.

32. Crime as a rule is of the violent order and shows a lack of subtlety. In the Police Magistrate's Court there was a case of "money doubling" and the case of a Schoolmaster working on the fears and superstitions of his pupils to induce them to steal from their guardians and parents. At Juaso there were several cases of praedial larceny on the part of railway labourers, and there was the case of a clerk who posed as a lawyer and obtained a fee of £260 to appear in a land case.

CONCESSIONS.

33. No new Concessions were taken up during the year, but two were terminated.

POLICE.

34. The Police Force in Ashanti numbers 239, and is nearly up to its authorised strength. Two additional Assistant Commissioners have been allocated to Ashanti and there has been an increase in literate Constables. The necessity is arising, however, for a further augmentation of the Force.

35. The number of offences reported to the Police was 2,343. The number of Police prosecutions was 3,705 resulting in 3,385 convictions.

36. The testimony to the good work done by the Police during the year is universal. In Coomassie during the excitement over the desecration of the Golden Stool their conduct was admirable.

PRISONS.

37. The statistics of the Prisons in Ashanti are as follows :—

	Convicted.	Untried.	Debtors.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
Coomassie.. ..	823	61	62	8	3
Obuasi	245	109	53	—	—
Juaso	97	83	13	—	—
Kintampo.. ..	77	12	—	2	—
Sunyani	97	28	10	—	—

At Ejura the average number of prisoners was nine. At Goase and Wenchi there are police "lock-ups."

The health of the prisoners has been uniformly good. At Coomassie, Obuasi and Kintampo the buildings are of a good type, but at Juaso and Ejura they are of the "bush" type and at Sunyani the present building has been converted from a military store. Farms are now being started in connection with the prisons, and have already considerably reduced the cost of the prison. At Coomassie very valuable work in the way of reclamation was carried out by the Prison Department on the site of the prison farm. That site lying between the railway station and the Ridge was formerly swamp, covered with elephant grass and weeds, and breeding mosquitoes. It has now been drained and planted out with maize and cassada.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

38. Outside Coomassie there are Medical Officers stationed at Sunyani, and Kintampo. There is also a Medical Officer attached to the Railway Construction and at Obuasi the Mines Medical Officer by arrangement with the Manager of the Mines takes charge of Government Officials. At Coomassie there is the Provincial Medical Officer and a Medical Officer.

39. There was no serious epidemic during the year and the health of the native population seems to have been normal. At Coomassie Hospital, which is the finest Native Hospital on the Gold Coast, there were 1,125 admissions and 83 deaths. The prevalent diseases were Ulcers, Malaria and Venereal, and there was also a considerable number of Pulmonary and Bronchial affections.

The principal cases of death were Injuries 11, Bronchitis, 1 Pneumonia and Pthisis 19, Septic infections 12, Dysentery 6.

There were 14,126 vaccinations performed of which 9,175 were successful.

40. For Europeans in Coomassie, it has been a bad year. There were 172 admissions to the Hospital as against 149 in 1920, and there were 186 Officials on the sick list as against 116 in 1920. There were three deaths and fifteen cases of invaliding. There were six cases of Blackwater fever with two deaths as against three cases with one death in 1920. The European population of Coomassie is about 225.

41. As regards buildings the Native Hospital is sufficient for the present requirements of the population, but owing to lack of Staff full advantage cannot be taken of the accommodation provided; an extension to the European Hospital was carried out during the year, but in the near future further extension will be necessary to provide accommodation for women patients.

SANITATION.

42. The Sanitation of the bush village in Ashanti is as a rule satisfactory and there is a general desire for a "fine" village with good streets and houses. In certain parts of Ahafo, however, in Western Ashanti some of the villages are beginning to have a ruinous appearance and it is explained that owing to the impossibility of marketing the cocoa crop at that distance from motor roads and railways the "youngmen" are going to Akim. In villages which are becoming important trade centres the upkeep of the village not unfrequently gets beyond the control of the village authorities, and assistance in the way of Sanitary Inspectors and of constant supervision on the part of the Medical or Political Officers is necessary to strengthen the hands of the Chief in dealing with his cosmopolitan population.

43. The Sanitation of Obuasi is in the hands of the Sanitary Committee composed of Government and the Mine Representatives. It expended the sum of £6,000 during the year and has a balance of £4,500 to its credit. Its revenue is derived from a poll tax. Obuasi, with a population of under 4,000 is probably better equipped with funds for sanitation than any other town on the Gold Coast.

SANITATION OF COOMASSIE.

44. The population of Coomassie is roughly 20,000, the town limits run at a radius of a mile and a half from the Fort and there are buildings scattered over all the area. The Sanitary Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, a Superintending Sanitary Inspector, one Second Class Inspector, four Third Class Inspectors and two Probationers. This Staff is confessedly inadequate and the time is anxiously awaited when funds will permit of a substantial increase.

45. On daily house to house inspection 39,479 houses were visited, in 384 cases larvæ were found and in 289 cases Summonses were issued. Notices as regards insanitary conditions were served in 1,182 cases and 782 Summonses were taken out.

46. Household refuse is destroyed in small incinerators of which there are 20 distributed over the various quarters of Coomassie. Householders convey their refuse to the nearest incinerator, and street and market refuse is collected by scavengers and carted to the incinerators. The system works fairly well, but the incinerators are a great nuisance to the inhabitants in the near neighbourhood and the time has arrived for a modern high pressure destructor and more suitable transport.

47. The water supply is obtained from two sources from the East and West Subin streams, which are rarely dry, and from shallow wells of which two are reserved for Europeans consumption. The water for officials is transported in head loads by prisoners and it has to be boiled and filtered before it is safe to drink. Investigations are being undertaken with a view to the provision of a pipe-borne water supply for Coomassie.

48. Sewage disposal is effected by means of prison labour. The prisoners convey head-loads from the latrines to entrenching areas, one on each side of the town. The system is not altogether satisfactory, but it is likely to be some time before any radical improvement can be made.

49. For a part of the year Coomassie had the services of a European Building Inspector, but unfortunately he was soon transferred to the Colony. Coomassie, which will soon be the terminus of two railways, is already experiencing the effect of a certain amount of building activity, and, indeed, of speculation, for people from the surrounding villages are taking up plots in Coomassie, as a more remunerative investment than the cocoa industry. Although it was a bad year from the business point of view 237 building permits were approved as against 221 in 1920 and 103 in 1919. New leases granted in the town were 179 and in the Zongo 15, as against 137 and 68 in 1920.

50. Coomassie receives no grant in aid from the Government nor are rates levied. There is, however, a substantial revenue amounting in 1921 to £7,000 from rents, for the Government is ground landlord within the town limits. The revenue which is collected in the town by way of rents, licences (excluding motor licences), and fees amounts to £10,800.

51. The administration of Coomassie is theoretically in the hands of the Police Magistrate, who, as will be seen from the judicial statistics quoted above is fully occupied with Court work. Practically all work in connection with the layout and buildings is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Town Surveyor, the latter being the only person in Coomassie who has any idea what is the layout and where are the pillars to mark streets and building plots in the new areas planned some years ago and now overgrown. It is to be regretted that lack of funds do not permit of a more ambitious scheme of town planning than the present makeshift arrangements for there is an excellent opportunity now, before the rush comes, of laying out an attractive township, with public gardens and recreation grounds.

52. During the year 1,740 cattle, 2,111 sheep, 2,878 goats, and 126 pigs were slaughtered. The animals were inspected before and after slaughter and the meat was hung for the night and inspected next morning in the market. The price of beef has fallen from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. and mutton from 2s. to 1s. 9d.

53. Funds were not available for any extensive Sanitary works or improvements during the year. The most important work was the extension of the concrete drainage system by an addition of 3,500 feet. It is pointed out that "the main drainage of Coomassie consists of enormous wash-outs not easy to deal with from a sanitary point of view, for they have to be continually oiled in the rainy season and are receptacles for rubbish at all seasons." The substitution, therefore, of concrete drains though likely to be a long and expensive process is a consummation devoutly to be wished. In addition to concrete drainage four new public latrines and three new incinerators were built.

54. The rainfall recorded at various stations during the year was :—

	Inches.		Wettest month.
Coomassie ..	66.94	June ..	12.32
		September ..	12.47
Juaso	75.19	June ..	12.35
Ejura	62.61	September ..	12.46

It is the heaviest rainy season recorded for some years. In 1919 the rainfall for Coomassie was 37 inches and in 1920, 55.90 inches.

EDUCATION.

55. Education is in the hands of the Government and the Missions. The Government Schools are at Coomassie, Juaso in the Eastern Province, and Sunyani in the Western Province.

The numbers on the roll at Coomassie are 407 boys and 125 girls. The buildings are inadequate and an excellent site has been selected for new School buildings, but it is not anticipated that it will be possible to proceed with their erection for some time to come. At Sunyani there are 80 boys on the roll, being a slight decrease on the numbers for the preceding year.

The School at Juaso is in a flourishing condition and great interest is taken in it by the Chief. The number on the roll is 126 boys and 11 girls.

56. The statistics of the Mission Schools are :—

	Schools.	Scholars.
Wesleyan	55	2,866
Roman Catholic	30	1,397
Scottish Mission	28	1,272
S. P. G.	—	238
A.M.E.Z.	—	169
Seventh Day Adventists ..	5	120

Only 12 of these Schools are in the Western Province.

57. In the Eastern Province there is no lack of appreciation of the benefits of Education, and there is a general desire for the establishment of Schools. Chiefs offer to build temporary school buildings and contribute towards the salary of a teacher. Where there is friction or apathy it is due sometimes to the type of school teacher and his methods with the boys. In the Western Province, which in the way of development is far behind the Eastern Province. Schools are still regarded with distrust on the ground that the scholar makes a fractious or rebellious Stool subject. There are exceptions in certain divisions and as the country opens up, there is little doubt that there will be the same demand for schools as there is now in the more developed parts of Ashanti.

58. The schooling provided is of an elementary kind, and those who aspire to something beyond have to resort to Cape Coast or Accra. A Trade School is being established at Mampon and it is welcomed by the Chief and people, who are assisting in the work of clearing and the construction of temporary buildings.

59. The Boy Scout movement is spreading and it is being reorganized on a more satisfactory basis than hitherto. Some of the Chiefs, however, are apt to regard the scouts as a police force, and have readily accorded their support under that misapprehension. The boys are keen and there are great possibilities for good in the movement especially in the period of transition the Ashantis are now entering and when they will need all the moral guidance and training that can be given them.

60. Most of the artisans in Ashanti come from the Coast, but before long as the opportunity for learning trades arises, the Ashanti will assert his claim to a fair share in the sphere of technical employment. Already there are 44 Ashantis employed as motor drivers by the Government and there are 36 Ashantis in the engineering shops at Coomassie. The Firms also are no doubt training and employing Ashantis.

RELIGION.

61. There are six Missions established in Ashanti.

The Seventh Day Adventists with a membership of 451, of whom 157 are baptized.

The A.M.E. Zion Church with 300 full members, 67 probationers, and 293 juniors.

The S.P.G. with a roll of about 400 members.

The Scottish Mission with 2,212 in their Christian community and 766 adherents.

The Roman Catholic Mission with 2,950 adult members and 1,490 juniors.

The Wesleyan Mission with 8,000 adults, 7,320 juniors, and 2,535 under instruction.

These statistics reveal a remarkable increase in the number of Christians. They exceed the return for 1920 by nearly 15,000. Wholesale conversions into the Wesleyan community have been made by a native Evangelist, Sampson Opon, an illiterate person of extraordinary powers and influence as a preacher. He is a native of Wam in the Western Ashanti, but the scene of his great successes has been Eastern Ashanti. In the Western Province his presence is regarded with disfavour by some of the Chiefs and it is considered prudent for him to confine his work to the Eastern Province. In fact in certain parts of Ashanti something in the nature of a "mass movement" towards Christianity has set in. It may be, and Missionaries are alive to this fact, that such a movement has attendant dangers. Possibly set native habits of morality and the valuable and, it may be the inspired elements

in native religion will be cast aside in an access of momentary enthusiasm without anything lasting or substantial to take their place. There will probably be found much in native custom and habits of thought which can be carried over into a Christian community, and while, therefore, this great impulse towards Christianity is stirring among the Ashanti there is the need of the constant guidance and supervision of European Missionaries versed in and sympathetic towards native customs and beliefs.

62. The native religion is Animism and the vast majority of Ashantis are still its adherents. As a sympathetic description of Animism I venture to quote the words of the Reverend A. W. Wilkie, Head of the Scottish Mission on the Gold Coast and of many years experience in West Africa:—

Animism is an attitude towards life rather than a formal creed. It is unsystematised, and any formal statement concerning it becomes unreal whenever we try to force it into a system. The fundamental truth in Animism is its spiritual conception of life. For the Animist the ultimate reality is not the seen but the unseen; not the tangible but the intangible: the controlling forces in the world are spiritual. These statements would be unintelligible to the average African Animist, but they are true. For the Animist everything in life—the common acts of daily life—have spiritual (religious) significance. The great imperfection in the animistic outlook is that it is almost completely non-ethical. Right conduct is largely correct procedure, the fulfilment of proper forms, the avoidance of certain taboos. Righteousness as taught by the prophets of Israel is a foreign thought. How deeply this attitude is fixed, and how often it is carried over into the Christian life, the story of young African Churches witnesses. Again, the conception of the spirit world is essentially of spirits that are hostile, which can be made, but are not naturally, friendly. The attitude may lead to a “respect” for, or rather a dread of, the spirits, but not to reverence, and when we are saddened by a lack of reverence in the young Churches, we may trace it to this source. Lastly, it is an attitude towards a world of spirits. The spirit where conceived is so aloof as to be almost negligible.” [*East and West*. October, 1921.]

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

63. Two events of outstanding importance in the realm of Native Affairs, occurred during the year. These were the institution of an Anthropological Department and the desecration of the Golden Stool.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

64. Captain Rattray, M.B.E., of the Political Service, was seconded to Ashanti as Anthropologist, and assumed duty in July. In East Africa, Captain Rattray had studied native customs and languages, and on the Gold

Coast as Supervisor of the Preventive Service and later for many years as a Political Officer he had studied the customs and languages of the natives among whom his work lay. During leave he pursued his Anthropological studies at Oxford, and obtained the Diploma of Anthropology. He is entitled to a pensionable allowance for advanced knowledge of a native language, in his case Twi, the language of the Ashantis. From time to time he has published books on native languages and folklore.

65. An Anthropological Department is of value, as far as Government is immediately concerned, from two points of views, that of the Administration and that of the Native race.

66. As regards the administrative point of view I cannot do better than quote from a recent number of "United Empire." "Good knowledge of native custom is apt to be better than the best intentions without knowledge. However kind or keen an administrative officer may be his justice and mercy are likely to go for pearly nought if he is unacquainted with native social prejudices. A pitfall awaits every well intentioned step, and every stumble he takes is a loss of Government dignity."

Mutatis mutandis the same advice, I venture to think, could profitably be borne in mind by the Missionary, the Merchant, the Mining Engineer, by all whose work lies among natives.

67. As to the native point of view it is necessary to look to the future and to regard the present. Future generations should surely be grateful if they inherit records taken at the time and on the spot of their customs, their language, their origins, their music and their traditions:—some of the elements and part of the foundations it is to be hoped of the culture and civilisation they will have attained. But the amount of the debt which future generations will acknowledge as owing to their own forbears will depend in great measure on the attitude of the present generation towards their native customs and beliefs. Face to face with a material progress and civilisation which seems overwhelming and all devouring there must be a strong temptation for the young Ashanti to cut himself adrift from his past and to become dependent for all moral as well as all material needs upon the European. But Anthropological research will shew that there is much in native religion and custom which is worth a secure place in modern progress and which will tend to preserve the genius of the people and give to their civilisation something racy of the earth out of which according to their tradition they came forth.

68. But it is perhaps better to let Captain Rattray speak in his own words. "No opportunity has been missed of instituting a propaganda among these people. This campaign is conducted on the theory that our culture, our mode of dress, our ideas, arts, and customs, should not be embraced and superimposed upon their own to the entire extinction and exclusion of what is just and good in their own national institutions. They have

been told that their ideal should be, not to become pseudo-Europeans, but to aim at progress for their race which is based on what is best in their own institutions, religion, manners and customs; that they will become better and finer men by remaining true Ashantis and retaining a pride in their past, and that a greater hope lies in their future if they will follow and build upon lines with which the national *sunsum* or soul has been familiar since first they were a people. I have told them that the work of the new Department is to study these institutions, which the young tend to despise, and to help and advise them as to what will be of assistance to them by retaining, and that we do not wish to destroy such as are good."

"I have tried to make them understand that we are now here among them to help them by grafting on to their institutions such of our own as will help them, in these modern times, to take their place in the Commonwealth of civilized nations, not as denationalised Ashantis, but as an African people who will become all the greater force and power in the Empire because they have not bartered all the wealth of the past, metaphorically speaking, in exchange for a coat, a collar, and a tie."

"The response to this appeal (which has been my apology and excuse for prying into their secrets) the genuine understanding, the gratitude, and the wish for a helping hand to assist them over this critical stage in their evolution, has been a very remarkable feature in my work."

"The Ashantis seem at the parting of the ways, one path leads I believe to the unrest and the ferment we see on every hand among the peoples whose institutions we have either deliberately broken down or as deliberately allowed to decay. The other path at least leads to some surer hope because it has landmarks which the genius of a people will recognise, and which will help them upon the road when in difficulties."

"As a result of informal talks on these lines, I have had from the Chiefs, Queen Mothers, and Elders more assistance than could ever have been hoped for, and every possible facility has been given me in these investigations, and help from them to explain what is obscure. It is impossible to speak too highly of this assistance without which nothing could have been achieved."

"Among the younger generation there is a tendency however to ridicule the past. A youth who has passed the 5th, 6th, or 7th standard, and who by clerical work earns a few pounds a month, who is dressed in European garb, in his heart despises his own institutions, and his own illiterate elders."

"But he takes his cue from the European, whom his end all and be all is to copy. I firmly believe that once the Government and Political Officers are seen to take more interest in his ancient customs or by a knowledge of the colloquial get in touch with the backbone of these people, the elders, and are seen to encourage such customs and institutions as are good, that

the young generation will themselves follow suit and come to realise that they should not throw away their priceless heritage. They may even come to think there may be something in their own customs after all, since the white man seems to take cognizance of them in measures other than merely repressive."

"The 'youngman' of to-day in Ashanti wants to be in the fashion, that fashion for him is set by the European."

"It cannot be said it has been fashionable for us in the past to take an interest in Ashanti national beliefs and customs. It is difficult to take an interest in that which we do not clearly understand."

"Many a European Officer has in an official capacity listened to a native band, sweatingly blowing out Rule Britannia upon instruments with which he is familiar, and has congratulated the bandmaster and the Chief upon his new acquisition, and enterprise. The same Officer has possibly more than once sent his orderly to 'stop that drumming,' the sound of which seems to him possibly even worse than the martial strains to which he has just been compelled to listen."

"The old drummer is, in any case, little likely to be called up before His Majesty's representative and congratulated. Yet the beat of his drums is talking to the old men and women who sit and listen to its recital, in their own tongue, of the names and deeds of dead kings and the history of their ancestors."

"This is but one instance out of scores which show how (all unconsciously to ourselves) we often appear to the Ashanti to wish to destroy his past, and seem only to take cognizance of, and make it worth his while to foster and encourage what the European himself understands."

69. As regards method of work, Captain Rattray writes as follows :—

"Anthropological research on the Gold Coast has hitherto been conducted through, (1) the medium of interpreters, translating for the European investigator the replies of natives wholly ignorant of English, or (2). by the direct questioning of semi or even perhaps educated Africans. From the results of investigations so conducted we owe our past knowledge of Anthropology of this part of the world."

"But really valuable information on Anthropological subjects in Ashanti is possessed by comparatively few. Their *experts* are now to be found only among the old men and women. These have few dealings with the European, and lead out their lives in the seclusion of their villages, ignorant of, looking askance at, or indifferent to, the changes wrought by the advent of the white man."

“ If such old grey haired men or women (whom you do not happen to know intimately), be brought before you, set down, and asked to converse about their customs through an interpreter, then their wonderful store of lore will not be forthcoming, and the enquirer who is too busy with his routine work to devote time to cultivate the full confidence of such persons will be forced to fall back upon his semi-educated informant, who will at least talk freely and willingly of what he knows, as of what he does not know.”

“ But the value of information gained from these experts is inestimably greater than that obtained from other sources.”

“ It was a knowledge of these facts which decided me at the initial stages of these investigations to use the better facilities which I possessed, by personally securing as a ground-work this valuable material, which I do not think could be obtained by the other method. Once this framework has been secured, then those who, owing to lack of the opportunity which I have been given, or want of knowledge of the language, or both causes, would have found it difficult over to obtain this basic information, will have a foundation before them upon which to conduct further enquiries into the subjects already partly examined.”

“ It is hoped that the short interval that must necessarily elapse before my colleagues can be asked to step in to assist the new Department, will be more than overtaken, and the delay compensated for by the increased value of their own eventual contributions.”

“ It is to bring in my colleagues with as little delay as possible that the publication of such monographs as have been completed at this early stage has been advocated, even with the knowledge that additional facts may remain to be recorded to make them complete.”

70. Papers illustrated with photographs have been submitted on the following subjects :—

1. The Ashanti Classificatory System.
2. Ashanti Goldsmiths and Gold Weights.
3. Matrilineal Descent in Ashanti with a special plea for the recognition of Queen Mothers.
4. The Golden Stool.
5. Ntoro Exogamous Divisions.
6. Neolithic implements in Ashanti.
7. Land Tenure and Alienation in Ashanti.

71. The following subjects have been investigated and in due course articles on them will be available :—

1. Rites de Passage *i.e.* accounts of ceremonies at birth, puberty, marriage, and death.
2. Drum Talking.
3. The God " Onyame."
4. Adaye ceremonies.
5. Abosom (Fetishes).
6. Origin of various clans.
7. Witchcraft, the soul, life after death.
8. Hunting.
9. Historical records.

72. Among Phonographic Records the following have been made :

1. Drum talking records.

2. Kwadwuomfo's songs It is the duty of the Kwadwumfo, on certain ceremonial occasions, to stand behind a Chief and to sing (in archaic Ashanti, and so disguised as to be unintelligible to the uninitiated) the past history of the clan.

3. Bara songs. A more or less complete set of songs as sung on the coming to puberty of a young girl have been obtained and will illustrate a paper on the subject.

73. A certain number of physical measurements and of photographs have been taken. The former have not yet been worked out. The photographs are for illustrating the articles, but they will also be published in albums.

74. Captain Rattray's researches have already proved of practical value for it is due to his investigations that much that is new in the history of the "Golden Stool" has come to light and with such knowledge Government has seen the way to deal in a sympathetic spirit with the disturbing event of its desecration.

THE DESECRATION OF THE GOLDEN STOOL.

75. The Golden Stool came into the life of the Ashantis during the time of Osai Tutu, the fourth known King of Ashanti. It was his good fortune to be the founder of the Ashanti Empire, and his successes were attributed to the power of the Golden Stool.

76. In the early years of his reign there came to live among the Ashantis a man named Anotchi. He was a clansman of the King of Denkerā, then paramount over Ashanti, but he had been forced to fly from Denkerā because he had seduced one of the King's wives. He took refuge in the Obi country where he made a study of fetish medicines and practices, and from the Obi

country he came to Juaben in Ashanti. To the King of Juaben he announced that he had a mission from Onyame, the sky god, to make the Ashantis a great and powerful nation. The King of Juaben reported the announcement to Osai Tutu and a great gathering was summoned in Coomassie. In the presence of a large assembly of people, Anotchi by his powers drew down from the sky, a black cloud, and amid rumblings, and air thick with white dust a wooden stool having three supports, and partly covered with gold.

77. The Stool did not descend upon the ground but rested on the knees of Osai Tutu. Anotchi proclaimed to Osai Tutu and to all the people that the Stool contained the Sunsum (soul or spirit) of the Ashanti nation, their power, their health, their bravery, their honour and their welfare. He warned them also that if the Stool was captured or destroyed then as a man sickens and dies, so would the Ashanti nation sicken and die. He called upon Osai Tutu and each Ashanti Chief and each Queen Mother to take a few of their hairs and a piece of the nail from the fore-finger; these he collected and ground into a powder and mixed with "medicine," some of this compound was drunk and the rest poured over the Stool. To realise the significance of this rite it must be borne in mind that when a person dies from home and it is not possible to bring the body back for burial, some nail parings and hairs are brought home, for it is supposed that the Sunsum will accompany them.

78. In one account it is said that two brass bells were attached to the Stool when it descended from the sky, but another story is that Anotchi caused Osai Tutu to make four bells two of brass and two of gold to hang on each side of the Stool. Many Chief's stools have bells attached to them for the purpose of summoning at the Aday ceremonies the ghosts of the parted Chiefs.

79. Other well known insignia attached to the Stool were the gold fetters and the gold masks. The gold fetters are a trophy and a memorial of the overthrow of the Denkera power by the Ashantis. The King of Denkera sent his message to demand his tribute from Ashanti :—

A brass pan to be filled with gold dust.
The favourite wife of every Chief.
The favourite son of every Chief.

The King of Juaben, it is said, rose up and smote the messenger, and gave orders for him instantly to be killed. Every Ashanti Chief came forward and dipped his finger in the blood of the messenger and swore Oath to resist Denkera to the last. The two armies met in their final battle not far from Coomassie and the Denkeras were utterly routed. The King of Denkera was found by the pursuing Ashantis sitting with his wife and playing Ware, a native form of draughts, and his feet were shackled with golden fetters. These fetters are the Sika Dayanfo, part of the insignia of the Golden Stool.

80. The Gold Masks are of the face of Edinkra, King of Gyaman, a country some five or six days north-west of Ashanti. Edinkra had heard of the Golden Stool of Ashanti and thought it would be good to make one for Gyaman. The news of another Golden Stool so enraged the King of Ashanti that he marched an army into Gyaman defeated the forces opposed to him, and captured and beheaded the King. The gold of the Stool he had melted down and made into two casts of his rival's face, and these he had hung one on each side of the Golden Stool.

81. The Stool is never supposed to have touched the earth. On the rare occasions on which it was brought out it was never allowed to come into direct contact with the ground. The skin off the back of an elephant was set on the ground, and over this was spread a cloth of the kind woven in the North, and upon this cloth the Stool was placed. The Stool was never sat upon nor was it the Stool of every day or every ceremonial use. On great occasions the King would make pretence to sit upon it three times and would then seat himself upon his own Stool his arm resting upon the Golden Stool. In its progress once a year to Bantama this Stool was carried under its own umbrella and was surrounded by its attendants who in number and adornment exceeded those of the King who followed it. Its full title is Sika Gua Kofi "Friday's Golden Stool" for it was on a Friday that the Stool descended upon the knees of Osai Tutu.

82. During the 1895 Expedition which culminated in the deportation of Prempeh the surrender of the Golden Stool was intended to be one of the terms imposed upon the Ashantis, but the demand for it was not made. The Ashantis on their part fearing to take their Golden Stool to a war in which they felt they were bound to be defeated offered no opposition. They lost their King but retained the Stool.

83. Just before the 1900 Rising two unsuccessful efforts were made to find the Stool and the demand for it was of the causes of that Rising. Some years later information was received about its hiding place and preparations were made for seizing it. On the earnest representations of the Chiefs who had been loyal during the Rising the authorities abandoned the attempt.

84. The Gyase or bodyguard were custodians of the Golden Stool, and the Gyasehene or Head of the Gyase was responsible for its safety. In 1895, when Prempeh was arrested at Coomassie, certain of the Gyase disappeared into the forest with the Stool in their possession. Opoku Mensah, at that time representing the Gyasehene, when their escape was reported to him, ordered the Stool to be taken to a village Wawase and there to be handed over to certain persons for safe keeping. The Stool was guarded in a special hut built for its reception.

85. About 20 years later a dispute arose over the ownership of the Wawase land. Before giving a decision in the case the Chief Commissioner considered it desirable to inspect the land and set out from Cocmassie for that purpose. His intentions were immediately suspected and on the eve of the Chief Commissioner's departure, Chief Esubonten, who had succeeded Opoku Mensah, sent a messenger to Wawase telling the guardian of the Stool that it must be removed at once from Wawase and handed over to Kwesi Wireku of Abuabugya for safe keeping.

86. In August 1920 a road was being made at Chief Esubonten's desire but under Government supervision between Abuabugya and a neighbouring village. At a certain point a diversion almost at right angles was made from the track. This diversion was made at the instigation of the Road Overseer because it was easier going. The Headman of Abuabugya, Kujo Danso, who had succeeded his uncle Kwesi Wireku to the custody of the Golden Stool hovered uneasily round the young-men as they were at work along this diversion. Owing to the bush having been cleared he seemed to have lost his bearings. One Wednesday, Cofi Buor's pick-axe struck a box, and the youngmen gathered round. Danso by persuasion and threats endeavoured to get them out of the way and it was not until he had half convinced them that they had come upon a small-pox fetish could he get them to disperse. The box contained the Golden Stool and its insignia.

Danso sent to his house for a tin trunk as the box was rusted, and with some old men waited till dark when they carried the Golden Stool in the trunk to Abuabugya where it was kept in Yankyira's room. Yankyira was "next" to Danso and looked after the youngmen. The six men "swore fetish" that the discovery should not be made known to any others, but Danso was under no illusion that the youngmen had not realised what was in the box they had come upon by chance. Seniagya the villain of the piece, a professing Christian and by descent one of the Stool Carriers, seemed to have got wind of the discovery, for three days later he appeared at Abuabugya. He greeted Danso and Yankyira and then walked straight into Yankyira's room. He kicked the trunk and said "Is this what you have done here?" Without much difficulty he seemed to have persuaded Danso and Yankyira to share with him the gold ornaments of the Stool. While the distribution was taking place Yogo an ordinary "youngman" happened to be passing and asserted his claim to a share. Their point of view was that it was the Stool itself that was sacred, "but the gold about it is nothing."

87. The youngmen of Abuabugya, however, became curious and began to make enquiries. Kujo Danso, the headman, was "tossed about." Very strong suspicions were aroused and eventually the matter was reported to the Coomassie Chiefs. In the course of their enquiry it was found that the Golden Stool had been desecrated, that a certain goldsmith had received one of the gold bells to melt down and had melted it down, that the gold Fetters had been pawned for 30 shillings, and that most of the gold ornaments and insignia belonging to the Stool had disappeared.

88. On the evening of Monday, 12th September a message was left at the Chief Commissioner's Bungalow that "there was a big palaver over the Golden Stool. It had been stolen." The next morning there was a stormy meeting at Appremesu, the Palaver Hall of the old palace and the place where the two cannon captured in the Denkera war were set up. Chief Esubonten and Seniagya were being accused before the Chiefs. Some Police under a European Commissioner attended to watch the proceedings, and to frustrate any attempt to take the two accused away. The attempt was made, and the Police with assistance of certain others who had kept their heads removed to the Police Station the two men who were the particular objects of the crowd's hostility. The news of the desecration of the Stool soon spread and the excitement and consternation became intense. The Ashantis from neighbouring villages put on mourning and poured in to Coomassie to find out if the report was true. It was not at first credible that their own people should have violated the sanctity of the Stool. The town "became rough and shaky"; no market was held for some days; there was a good deal of wild talk, and as the Chiefs reported ten days later "a good many of the foreigners in town and more particularly the Fantees are running away to their countries with the erroneous idea that we are going to fight." Precautions were taken at once to deal with any emergency, and at the same time steps were taken to allay the excitement. As the facts became known and as the Ashantis came to understand that they had not become a laughing stock but that the sympathy of all strangers was with them in the degradation their national sentiment had suffered, and further that no advantage would be taken of their distress, their feeling of blind resentment began to cool and their hostility focussed itself upon those accused from time to time of complicity in the crime.

89. How to deal with the accused was a problem as perplexing to the Government as it was to the Chiefs. There had been a strong party among the Chiefs who were for concealing the whole business from the Government. In that case as one of the Chiefs explained:—"the two men would have been taken into the bush and lost." On the other hand the offence was not one that fell within the four corners of the Criminal Code, nor would the punishment for theft have been adequate in the minds of the Ashantis. If, again, the two men had been "lost in the bush" enquiries would sooner or later have been set on foot, the deaths of the two men would have been associated with the Golden Stool and the Stool would have been proscribed. If, on the other hand, the Government took entire charge of the proceedings there would be considerable doubt whether evidence sufficient to justify a conviction would be forthcoming. Neither the Stool nor its insignia would have been brought anywhere near the Court, while guilty parties and reluctant witnesses can much more easily evade the proceedings of Government Courts than they can the tribunals of their own Chiefs. Furthermore, the Golden Stool had been regarded as a sort of gage between themselves and the British Government. A gross outrage had been committed on the Stool by certain Ashantis themselves of all people and under British Adminis-

tration the Chiefs had no powers to deal with the offenders. It would be a great humiliation for them to approach the Government wholly to vindicate their honour and their religion. There was no little support, therefore, for those who urged the Chiefs to deal with the offenders in their own way and thereafter quietly take such punishment as the Government might think fit to mete out to them. But the procedure was settled mainly by the fact that the accused were in the Police Station under Government protection. After several interviews the procedure decided upon was as follows:—The Chiefs were to hold the Enquiry, not at Appremesu, but in the open space behind the Police Barracks, where, if necessary, Police reinforcements could appear at a few moment's notice; Police were to be at the enquiry to maintain order and preserve the peace; the accused would attend under armed Police Escort; witnesses were to be summoned and any further arrests were to be made through the Commissioner of Police; accused and witnesses were to be under Police protection; the enquiry was to be conducted according to the principles of British justice; at the conclusion of the enquiry a report was to be made to the Chief Commissioner, who would consider the question of guilt and the nature of the punishment to be inflicted.

90. The Coomassie Chiefs began the enquiry before some three thousand spectators, a good deal more evidence was obtained and more arrests were made. A few days later the Chiefs reported that the case was too important for them to try, and they asked that all the Provincial Chiefs, twelve in number, should be allowed to come to Coomassie to form a Court. The permission was granted but the followers of the Provincial Chiefs were limited to fifty in each case. They arrived on the 21st September, and the whole of the next morning was devoted to the picturesque ceremony of "saluting" one another on the Fort Parade ground. They settled down to work on the following day under the presidency of the Omanhene of Mampon and in four days concluded the enquiry. The Chiefs took every precaution they could think of to ensure that there should be a fair trial. To prevent any suspicion of bias a Fanti Clerk was engaged to take down the notes of evidence, the representatives of "strangers" in Coomassie were asked to attend at the enquiry and so also were the Ministers of the various religious denominations; when an important confession was being made it was not allowed to be recorded until Captain Douris, Acting Commissioner of Police, had been summoned to listen to it. At the conclusion of the enquiry and before making their report the Chiefs asked the Ministers for their written opinion as to the guilt of the various accused.

91. The Chiefs found that Seniagya, Kujo Danso, Kwesie Yankyira, Yogo and Kujo-Poku (the Goldsmith who melted down the bell) "being natives of Ashanti and subjects of the Gold Stool of the Ashanti Nation, did expose, steal, destroy, sell and otherwise unlawfully deal with and use the said Gold Stool thereby betraying the said Ashanti Nation and laying it open to disgrace and ridicule, and debasing the name and fame of Ashanti, much to the annoyance and provocation of all people young and old, thereby giving occasion for disturbance and bloodshed, but for the intervention of Government."

92. In the case of Esubonten the Chiefs found that "being the Head-Chief who by virtue of his office had the custody of the Golden Stool" he had neglected his duty and "gave occasion for the exposure and loss of the Golden Stool the loss of which has caused much commotion and fear not only among the whole of the Ashanti Nation but among other Nations on the Coast" and further by "causing a new and unnecessary road to be constructed from Abuabugya to Ahinkro, through the piece of ground in which the Gold Stool and the Treasurers of the Ashanti Nation are deposited did cause the said Stool to be discovered, exposed and stolen. Like an officer or soldier sleeping on guard in time of war, or neglecting to keep watch has suffered the enemy to enter." These persons the Chiefs recommended should be put to death. "In the days of the Kings of Ashanti a person committing a less serious offence than this was put to death with all members of his family."

93. At the time the case against Esubonten did not appear strong enough to justify his conviction and he was put back for further enquiries. In the case of the others who had confessed their guilt, banishment overseas was substituted for the death penalty.

94. Eight others were convicted of buying the ornaments of the Stool knowing that they were stolen and belonged to the Stool. The Chiefs asked that these persons should be banished and all their goods confiscated. Five of these, however, were convicted on the evidence of Seniagya alone.—Seniagya had assumed the part of Titus Oates and was accusing people one day and the next day would confess he had been lying. These five persons, therefore, as the evidence of Seniagya was utterly unreliable were acquitted. The remaining three were ordered "to swear fetish" before the Coomassie Chiefs. One of them had admitted receiving the Gold Fetters in pawn, another admitted purchasing some of the Gold from the ornaments melted down, and the third admitted that he disobeyed gong gong and had also purchased some of the gold.

95. Fresh evidence was subsequently brought against Esubonten which was sufficient to prove at least that he was guilty of negligence. The Office he held was that of the keeper of the King's keys including the key of the Stool House; he was brother and successor of Opoku Mensa who had charge of the Golden Stool; the Stool was found on his land by his subjects; he knew the approximate whereabouts of the Stool and it was on his instructions that the Stool was removed from Wawase to Abuabugya. On the other hand he was not immediately responsible for the discovery of the Stool and was in no way concerned in the theft of the Gold. The Chiefs asked that he should be classed with Seniagya and the others. His guilt however, was not as heinous as theirs and it was decided that his Stool should be declared vacant and that he should be banished from Ashanti.

96. The ceremony of swearing fetish was witnessed by Captain Douris, Acting Commissioner of Police, at the pressing invitation of the Coomassie Chiefs. Any fines inflicted had to be paid before the Oath was administered, or sureties had to be found. One of the accused agreed forthwith to pay

the fine of £100. The Chiefs were pleased with the promise saying "He had given them their honour" and as a mark of appreciation reduced the fine to £70, one sheep and two bottles of whisky. "The fetish" was then brought in. It had its own retinue of attendants, umbrella, etc. : and was generally treated as one would expect to see a Chief of high standing, having all the paraphernalia due to Chiefs' rank. It was carried on the head of one boy and was covered with a rather expensive looking carpet, and had at least twelve attendants."

97. "When it was uncovered it consisted of two brass bells one larger than the other. A layer of mutton suet was spread across the top of each leaving the ring for hanging it free. These bells appeared to be quite old as far as one could judge from a superficial examination, and from the care taken of them must have been a fetish of a high order."

98. "The amounts having been settled and all things ready for the ceremony to proceed, Chiefs Kwame Kyem and Toto came forward and uncovered, each then placed a hand on the top of a bell, Kwame Kyem taking the larger one, and Toto taking the smaller one. Chief Nuama then came to the centre of the circle took his foot from his sandal and told Opoku to place his foot on it, Opoku having done this Nuama then placed his foot on top of Opoku's and administered the Oath in the following form :—"I swear by the great Oath Kromanti that if I am in possession of any of the ornaments of the Golden Stool or have given possession of them to any person to hold in trust for me may the fetish kill me." When the Oath had been administered Nuama took the larger of the two bells and holding it up to Opoku's mouth he, Opoku, touched it with his tongue three times while one of the fetish attendants kept ringing the smaller one."

99. "Nuama again invoked some spirit and afterward placed the large bell three times on the head of Opoku and again the smaller one was shaken."

100. "A new bottle of whisky was then opened and a sherry glass filled from it, this was handed to Nuama who spilt three drops on the ground emptying the remainder over Opoku's head."

"During all this time Nuama kept his foot on Opoku's."

"This concluded the ceremony."

101. "I have since spoken to Mr. Rattray about the fetish and the manner of administering it and he gives it to me as his private opinion that the bells used were those of the Golden Stool which judging by the amount of care they took of them and the ceremony observed is doubtless the correct reading" (Report by Captain Douris).

102. The two other accused undertook to find sureties or the amount of the fine. If they do not they will probably suffer imprisonment as an alternative.

103. I am quite satisfied that the Chiefs conducted the trial with all fairness according to their lights. It was held in the presence of a large concourse of spectators and the accused the whole time were under Police protection. There was no intimidation of witnesses or accused. The accused had a fair chance of cross-examining witnesses and of making their defence. In the case of Esubonton his judges were the Coomassie Chiefs his colleagues on the Coomassie Council. They were on friendly terms with him before the palaver and there is no reason to think that there was any private bias against him in their minds.

104. The present condition of the Golden Stool is reported by the Chiefs to be as follows:—"The Nucleus of the Stool described by the Ashantis as the nutshell holding the souls of all Ashanti and protecting us against all evils is some mysterious thing believed to have been charmed and snatched or received from the heavens by our Great Priest Komfu Anotchi. That thing we must truly say is not sold and was therefore not used by the culprits. But all the gorgeous amount of gold trinkets, gold statues, gold bells, and precious beads in connection with the Stool had been wholly stolen and the gold we have recovered now is barely two hundredth part of the total."

105. The attitude of the Government towards the Stool is that the Ashantis may, if they so desire keep open custody of the Stool, that as far as Government is concerned they need not think it necessary to bury or conceal the Stool, that Government will not interfere unless the Ashantis allow its worship to degrade it into an impure fetish or unless they make use of it for seditious purposes.

106. The story of this disturbing event in Ashanti politics cannot be closed without paying a tribute to the conduct of the Chiefs and people of Ashanti throughout the crisis. Apart from the first day or two, Coomassie at night, in spite of the large crowds coming in was as quiet as if curfew had been instituted. No doubt the embargo on the sale of spirits in Coomassie and the neighbouring districts strengthened the hands of the Chiefs, yet the greatest credit is due to the Chiefs themselves for the manner in which they conducted the enquiry and strove successfully to preserve the peace.

THE CENSUS.

107. The Census of Ashanti was taken in April and recorded a population of 407,000 an increase of 119,230 on the Census taken ten years ago. It is not possible to speak of the accuracy of the Census with any great confidence, and the increase in the population is not necessarily a natural one. It may be due to a more extensive acquaintance with the country and to less suspicion on the part of the inhabitants. The population of the Coomassie District including Coomassie is 150,000, and in the districts adjoining along the railways and motor roads and within easy reach of Coomassie there is approximately another 140,000. In the more remote districts of the Western Province there are 115,000 recorded.

PUBLIC WORKS.

108. The sum of £1,700 was spent on Minor Works and £3,000 on Current Repairs. The Provincial Engineer reports that as regards Current Repairs a considerable amount of money is necessary to put in anything like decent repair Government buildings, especially bungalows, at Coomassie and outstations.

109. Under Public Works Extraordinary about £2,500 was spent chiefly on the construction of a motor road into the Western Province. An important bridge over the Offin will shortly be completed and this will throw 30 miles of road open for traffic. The sum of £930 was spent on new streets and roads in Coomassie.

110. The opening of the new Station will divert traffic from its present channels and it will be necessary to expend a large sum on the construction of streets and roads to serve the new Station.

111. The sum of £1,900 was spent on surface drainage. Considerable sums for some years to come will have to be expended on this work.

112. The sum of £11,000 was spent on the construction of four bungalows at Coomassie which were started in 1920.

113. In the near future when the Western Province of Ashanti opens up as the Eastern Province is rapidly doing now, and the importance of Coomassie as the terminus of two railways and the depot for trade from the North and West is realised, a large expenditure on Public Works will become essential.

ROADS.

114. Twenty-five miles of motor road were opened for traffic during the year, chiefly in the Coomassie District. Altogether therefore there are 475 miles of motor road in Ashanti, almost entirely in the Eastern Province. About 200 miles of road are under the supervision of the Public Works. The chief road, and the finest on the Gold Coast, is the road running north to Tamale. From Coomassie to Ejura, 61 miles, this road is described as a "first class road." From Ejura to Attabubu it is described as second class. From Ntonso to Effiduassie a branch road at 14 miles, there are ten miles of second class road. From Coomassie to Bompata, 47 miles and bearing a large proportion of the cocoa traffic, the road is not unfairly described as "an improved bush track with rough timber bridges and culverts which have been put up for some years, and all require rebuildings." If it is to be converted into a second class road it will require re-construction. Fortunately, however, it is anticipated that the railway will be through to Bompata by the next cocoa season, and will relieve this road of most of its heavy traffic.

115. The cost of maintenance was enhanced by the heavy and prolonged rainy season and by the fact that the Ford lorry is being superseded by a heavier type of lorry, such as, the Reo, the Stewart, and the Auto-car. The cost of maintenance from Coomassie to Ejura works out during the year at £120 per mile, but there was a heavy land slide which closed the road for a fortnight and needed a Special Warrant of £1,000 for its repair. The maintenance of the Coomassie-Bompata Road worked out at £46 per mile, but funds did not permit of more than urgent repairs and temporary expedients. The car mileage on the road from Coomassie to Ejura was 741,020, from Ntonso to Effiduasia 108,620, from Ejura to Attabubu 101,360. On the road from Coomassie to Bompata the mileage was not recorded, but in the month of October 1,200 lorries, most of them of the heavy type, were on the road.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

116. The "fleet" numbered 94 lorries and cars as compared with 48 in the previous year.

Comparative statistics are :—

	1920	1921
Passengers	875	1,350
Loads	8,052	14,566
Cars and Lorries sent out	897	1,681

117. The mileage run per month averaged for the last nine months of the year 59,550 miles. In November, 89,400 miles and in December 94,000 miles were run. The longest runs away from the base are :—

250 miles to Tamale.
138 miles to Kintampo.
115 miles to Tekima.

The average cost of running per mile is 1s. 7d., this figure includes besides wages and salaries the cost of building bush offices and accommodation for a European at Prang and of a certain amount of general repair work at Coomassie.

118. In Coomassie itself the Department delivered 4,025 loads, moved 7,644 loads of officers arriving and departing, and moved 5,961 mail bags and baskets to and from the railway.

RAILWAYS.

119. The bulk of traffic outwards from Ashanti stations is Cocoa and Kola. There was an increase of 6,500 tons in the cocoa traffic and a decrease of 700 tons in the kola traffic as compared with the 1920 returns.

As regards the inwards traffic there were 34,280 tons in 1921 as against 30,700 tons in 1920.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

120. The distance the railway will run from Coomassie to the border is 68 miles. By the end of the year the line was open for traffic to Ejisu, at 15 miles and by the middle of June next will be open to Juaso 45 miles.

121. The building of Coomassie Station is well in hand, but the Construction Department have been faced with an unexpected problem. The site is virtually the cesspool of Coomassie, and a large and unanticipated expenditure has had to be incurred in drainage which, from a sanitary point of view, will be of ultimate advantage. Even so it has been found necessary to float the principal buildings on ferro concrete rafts as no sound bottom could be reached for foundations.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

122. No separate statistics for Ashanti are available. The various services were satisfactorily maintained during the year, but a good deal more use might be made of the Government Transport along the Coomassie-Tamale Road.

SURVEYS.

23. The Topographical framework has been carried from Accra to the hills surrounding Lake Bosomtwi in the Southern portion of Ashanti and the arrival of a working party of Topographical Branch in Ashanti next season is anxiously awaited by the Chiefs.

During the year surveys were made of Town sites on the Coomassie-Tafo Railway and various lands the subject of litigation. Heavy and prolonged rains interfered with work in the field from June to October.

GENERAL.

124. At the beginning of the year, Ashanti was divided into two Provinces, the Eastern and Western, in place of the four Provinces established under the Administration Ordinance, 1902.

Mr. Griffith and Mr. Pott, Provincial Commissioners, retired on pension during the year. Mr. Erbynn, Chief Clerk, also retired. He had been associated with Ashanti since 1895. Mr. Erbynn was made a Member of the Imperial Service Order on the King's Birthday, and Mr. Harper was awarded a Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George on the 22nd December.

C. H. HARPER,
Chief Commissioner, Ashanti.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1106	Sevchelles	1920
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	"
1117	Cyprus	1921
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad	1921
1136	British Honduras	"
1137	Ceylon	"
1138	Swaziland	"
1139	Hongkong	"
1140	Straits Settlements	"
1141	St. Lucia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1143.

JAMAICA.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1116.)



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JAMAICA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

1. Jamaica is an island in the Caribbean Sea, to the southward of the eastern extremity of the Island of Cuba, within N. lat. $17^{\circ} 42' 20''$ and $18^{\circ} 32' 30''$ and W. long. $76^{\circ} 11' 55''$ and $78^{\circ} 23' 35''$. It is the largest island of the British West Indies, the extreme length being 144 miles and the greatest width 49 miles.

2. The island is divided into three counties and fourteen parishes, namely:—

<i>Surrey.</i>		<i>Middlesex.</i>		<i>Cornwall.</i>	
	Sq. Mls.		Sq. Mls.		Sq. Mls.
Kingston	7	St. Catherine	470	St. Elizabeth	462
St. Andrew	166	St. Mary	249	Trelawny	333
St. Thomas	274	Clarendon	474	St. James	234
Portland	285	St. Ann	476	Hanover	157
		Manchester	302	Westmoreland	308
Total	732		1,971		1,504

giving a total of 4,207 square miles, equal to 2,692,587 acres, of which approximately, 646 square miles or 413,440 acres, are flat, consisting of alluvium, marl and swamps. For purposes of comparison, it may be observed that 2,925,587 acres is slightly larger than the total area of the six Welsh Counties:—Cardigan, Brecon, Radnor, Montgomery, Merioneth, Denbigh. Jamaica is more mountainous than Wales, the hills being more precipitous, and the Blue Mountain Peak (7,388 feet) is rather more than double the height of Snowdon (3,571 feet). Oddly enough, the population is also double that of the six Welsh Counties.

3. A great diversity of climate is obtainable. From a tropical temperature of 86° to 86° at the sea coast the thermometer falls to 45° and 50° on the tops of the highest mountains, and with a dryness of atmosphere that renders the climate of the mountains of Jamaica particularly delightful and suitable to the most delicate constitution.

The midland parts of the island are the highest. Through the County of Surrey, and partly through Middlesex, there runs the great central chain which trends generally in an east and west direction, the highest part of which is the Blue Mountain Peak, attaining an elevation of 7,360 feet.

From this range subordinate ridges or spurs run northerly to the northside of the island and southerly to the southside; these ridges in their turn are the parents of other smaller ridges, which branch off in every direction with considerable regularity and method; and they again throw off other ridges, until the whole surface of the country is cut up into a series of ridges, with intervening gullies.

4. There are numerous rivers and streams, from which Jamaica derived its aboriginal Arawak name of Xaymaca, which is supposed

to imply an overflowing abundance of rivers. The majority have a rapid fall and are not, to any extent, navigable.

5. There are many mineral springs in Jamaica, some of them possessing valuable qualities for the cure of various diseases and infirmities of the body.

The two principal are, the spring at Bath, in St. Thomas in the East, and the spring at Milk River in Clarendon.

6. Jamaica possesses several good harbours in the Island, the largest and most important being that of Kingston, the Capital, which is considered one of the finest natural harbours in the world.

7. The following are dependencies of Jamaica, viz.—The Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands, also the Guano Islands, Pedro and Morant Cays.

HISTORICAL.

8. Jamaica was discovered by Columbus on the 3rd May, 1494. He called it St. Jago, after the Patron Saint of Spain, but the new name was soon dropped in favour of the native one of Jamaica (Xay-maca—well watered.) The first settlement on it was effected on the shores of St. Ann's Bay, by Esquivel in 1509, under the direction of Diego, the son of Columbus, while Governor of Hispaniola. Although invaded by Sir Anthony Shirley in 1596, and by Colonel Jackson in 1643, it remained in the possession of the Spaniards for 161 years, when it was again attacked by a force sent by Cromwell, under Admiral Penn and General Venables, against Hispaniola, and capitulated, after a trifling resistance, on the 11th May, 1655. Until the Restoration, Jamaica remained under military jurisdiction, but in 1660 a regular civil government was established by Charles II, who appointed General Edward Doyley Governor-in-chief with an Elective Council. In 1670 peace was made with Spain, and the title of England to Jamaica was recognised by the Treaty of Madrid. The colony grew fast, stimulated by the wealth brought into it by the bucaniers, who made Port Royal their headquarters and storehouse. This town was engulfed in the great earthquake of 1692. Kingston then consisted of a few sheds and St. Jago de la Vega (Spanish Town) became practically the capital. During the 18th century the island suffered from hurricanes, earthquakes, numerous slave insurrections, as well as wars with the maroons, or mountaineers, the descendants of African slaves left by the Spaniards, who inhabited mainly the east of the island, among the Blue Mountains. When the Slave Trade was abolished, in 1807, there were 323,827 slaves in Jamaica. During the last eight years of the trade, 86,821 slaves were imported. On the abolition of slavery in 1833, Jamaica received 6,161,927. of the 20,000,000*l.*, granted by the Imperial Government as compensation to the slave-owners. A serious rebellion among the black population in 1865 was suppressed by Governor Eyre with unnecessary violence, and he was recalled. In January, 1907, Kingston was devastated by a terrible earthquake, which caused great loss of life and immense destruction of property. A Mansion House Fund was opened and contributions poured in from all parts of the Empire for the relief of distress. A free grant of 150,000*l.* was voted by Parliament, and a loan of 800,000*l.* chiefly in aid of re-building, was authorised from the Home Exchequer. Two buildings, the General Post Office and Treasury, and the King's House, the official residence of the Governor, were completed in 1910, and the Law Courts in 1913.

Constitution.

9. The original Constitution granted by Charles II., in 1662, which which after existing for nearly 200 years, was surrendered in 1866, was a representative one, consisting of a Governor, a Privy Council, a Legislative Council, and an Assembly of 47 elected members. The depression caused by the abolition of slavery led to a grave constitutional crisis, the Assembly refusing to vote supplies, and endeavouring to enforce sweeping reductions in establishments, without compensation to the displaced officers. Lord Melbourne's Government, in 1829, actually introduced a Bill into Parliament for the suspension of the constitution, but was defeated and it was not till 1854 that, by a change in the constitution of the Council, harmony was temporarily restored.

After the suppression of the rebellion in 1865, Governor Eyre, at the meeting of the Legislature, urged the unsuitability of the then existing form of Government to meet the circumstances of the community, and the necessity of making some sweeping change, by which a strong Government might be created. The Legislature willingly responded, abrogated all the existing machinery of legislation, and left it to Her Majesty's Government to substitute any other form of Government which might be better suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony.

A Legislative Council was, by Orders in Council of the 11th June, 1866, and 11 November, 1869, established, consisting of such numbers of official and unofficial members as Her Majesty might think fit. The numbers of each were six until 1878, when they were enlarged to eight, and a ninth was added in 1881.

By Order in Council dated 19th May, 1884, and Amending Order of 3rd October, 1895, the constitution was fixed in the following manner:—

The Council to consist of the Governor (with only a casting vote) and five *ex-officio* members, viz. the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Director of Public Works and Collector General, and such other persons, not exceeding ten in number, as Her Majesty may from time to time appoint or as the Governor may from time to time provisionally appoint, and fourteen persons to be elected as therein provided. The Council shall be dissolved at the end of five years from the last preceding general election, if it shall not have been previously dissolved.

There is also a Privy Council, with the usual powers and functions of an executive council. It consists of the Lieutenant-Governor, if any, the Senior Military Officer in command, the Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General and such other persons as may be named by the King, or provisionally appointed by the Governor subject to the approval of His Majesty, but the number of members is not to exceed eight. The Governor is to preside at each meeting, and the Governor and two members form a quorum.

10. The first registration under Law 22 of 1886 was in August, 1887. The revised lists showed that there was one elector to every 25 persons in the island.

Local Administration.

11. There are elective Parochial Boards in the town of Kingston and 14 other parishes, under Laws 13 of 1900 and 17 of 1901, with jurisdiction over roads, markets, sanitation, poor relief, water works, and pounds. The chief towns are Kingston (population in 1921, 62,707), Port Royal (population, 1,004), Spanish Town (population 8,694), Port Antonio (population 6,272), Montego Bay (population 6,580), Falmouth (popu-

lation 2,136), Port Maria (population 2,481), and Savanna-la-Mar (population 3,442).

12. The parish is the unit of local Government, and each parish has its own parochial Institutions viz: poor-houses, etc., etc., managed by the Parochial Board of the parish, the members of which are elected by the persons entitled to vote for the election of members of the Legislative Council. The administration of poor relief by the Parochial Boards is controlled by a Board of Supervision. The total number of registered poor was 7,713, being a decrease of 332 as compared with last year, and 704 less than in the year 1919. The present figures are slightly below the total of 1917, and indicate that the upward tendency of pauperism has been broken. The several direct taxes received on property, horses, carriages, etc., etc., are devoted mainly to the parish in which they are collected, with the exception of a few items which go to the credit of the general revenue of the Colony.

13. There is a Supreme Court of Judicature together with Resident Magistrate Courts and Petty Sessions of Justices of the Peace throughout the Island. The Resident Magistrates, besides holding courts of their own, preside in the Courts of Petty Sessions.

1.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

14. During the year under review Jamaica in common with other portions of the world, experienced difficulty and stress due to economic conditions brought about by the aftermath of the Great War. The sudden, and generally unexpected, drop from the high prices realized in the previous year for cane sugar and other staple products of the Island affected adversely the financial prospects of planters, merchants, labourers and others engaged in agricultural industries. This depression was inevitably reflected in trade statistics generally and in the Revenue of the Colony. The price paid for sugar dropped from £75 to £14 per ton; that for bananas from £20 to £8 per 100 stems; that for coconuts from £14 to £4 per 1,000 nuts, and that for rum from 8s. to 1s. 9d. per gallon. On the other hand, as regards quantities, the exports compare not unfavourably with the preceding year; e.g., 24,000,000 coconuts were exported, as against 28,000,000 in the previous year; bananas show an increase of nearly 1,000,000 stems, the total exportation being nearly 10,000,000; cocoa an increase of 14,000 cwt. coffee of 21,000 cwt.; Pimento of 12,000 cwt.; and Rum of 215,200 gallons. On the whole, the trade results of the year proved better than was anticipated, a result which is due in great measure to the seasonable weather that obtained in most parts of the Island, and to increased shipping facilities.

15. The Sugar Industry, which had been enjoying comparative prosperity since the year 1915, suffered more severely than any other, and it was found necessary to enact legislation in order that temporary financial aid might be afforded for its preservation and to enable loans to be raised and used for the purpose. The Governor accordingly appointed a Board, termed the Sugar Industry Aid Board, with the Attorney General of the Colony as Chairman, to make loans under the provisions of Law 10 of 1921, to such owners of Sugar Plantations and cane farmers as were in need of assistance.

16. So far as Jamaica is concerned the year 1920 should be regarded as abnormal from an economic point of view, and the year 1921 showed a tendency to a return to more normal conditions. As an illustration, it should be noted that the amount collected for Import Duties during 1921-22 was nearly £297,000 below the amount collected in 1920-21;

while compared with the year 1919-20, which marked the beginning of abnormal conditions, the Import Duties collected during the year under review were less by some £30,000, but exceeded the amount collected in 1918-19 by over £268,000. Factors responsible for this decrease as compared with the previous year, were the decline in value of *ad-valorem* goods; the improvement in the rate of exchange between this Colony and the United States of America, which rose from 3.36 in November, 1920, to 4.21 in December, 1921, and diminished purchasing power following the decrease in the value of agricultural products.

17. Jamaica did not, during the year 1921, give preference to Canada, although the Dominion extended to this Colony, during the greater portion of the year, the preference enjoyed by British West Indian Colonies under the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, 1920. It might here be mentioned that a law was passed in this Colony during the early part of the year 1922 (Law 2 of 1922) to give a preference, generally speaking, of 25% to the United Kingdom and Canada, and to provide for the extension of this preference to other portions of the British Empire, subject to Resolution by the Legislative Council.

18. In keeping with the desire expressed by the Home Government that a census should be taken throughout the British Empire on the same date, a Census was taken in this Island on the 25th April, 1921. The result shows that the population of Jamaica has increased by 26,735 since the last census in 1911; the figures being 858,118 in 1921, as against 831,383 in 1911; the intercensal rate of increase being 3.215. The average number of persons to a square mile was 193 in 1921, as against 186 in 1911; 143 in 1891, and 138 in 1881. Apart from Kingston and Port Royal, the most thickly populated parish is St. Andrew, with 299 persons to the square mile; and Trelawny with 99 persons to the square mile is the most thinly populated parish.

19. As regards distribution, one tenth of the population lives within the metropolitan area of the Port of Kingston and the vicinity; in addition, the chief country towns (12 in all) account for 38,000 people: whilst the remainder are scattered throughout the Island; indeed, wherever the mountain land is rich, there you are likely to find a cottage the door of which is flanked with flowering shrubs, and, not far away, you will probably find a spring.

20. The Census of 1921 is illuminating with respect to the character of the people's dwellings:—

	1911.	1921.
(1) Number of dwellings with shingle metal or concrete roof and floored	91,183	109,876
(2) Number of dwellings with thatch roof and floored	47,637	46,748
(3) Number of dwellings unfloored and mostly with roofs of thatch	42,214	32,785
(4) Unspecified	2,873	1,894
(5) Number of dwellings	183,934	191,303
(6) Number of "windowed rooms" in the dwellings—		
(a) 1 room only	75,670	80,654
(b) 2 rooms	72,671	74,681
(c) more than 2	35,593	35,968
Total	183,934	191,303

These statistics show that some progress has been made during the last decade, and that resolute efforts must be made during the present decade to induce builders to make the utmost use of local materials, thereby lessening the cost of providing hygienic dwellings for the less wealthy classes. On this account the Government has been, and still is, making experiments with a view to finding out how far it is possible to make walls and floors out of local material, in lieu of imported timber. Thus far, it has been found that a strong wall can be made by mixing the local "marl" with cement in the proportion of 15 to 1. Three buildings have been erected the walls of which are of "terre pise." The "red earth" of Jamaica is another promising material in fact, its value was brought to notice by the Royal Society of Arts as far back as the eighteenth century. A difficult problem is to construct a cheap hygienic floor. Thus, a roughly made wooden floor is certain to harbour insects; and a concrete floor is objected to because it is a cold and chilly. By way of compromise and experiment, the Government is making some floors of marl-concrete mixed with charcoal.

21. Towards the latter part of the year 1921, the Government of Canada appointed a resident Trade Commissioner for the Dominion in Jamaica. This step has already been instrumental in fostering mutual commercial relations, and it is confidently expected that, in future, the practical outcome will be the steady development of trade between the two countries. The Canadian Trade Commissioner also took over the duties of Imperial Trade Correspondent which had hitherto been performed by the Colonial Secretary.

22. During the latter part of the year Jamaica and other British West Indian Colonies were visited by the Right Honourable Major E. F. L. Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, accompanied by Captain the Honourable W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. R. A. Wiseman of the Colonial Office, for the purpose of enquiring into constitutional, administrative, economic, and ancillary questions affecting the West Indies.

The members of this Mission undertook extended tours throughout the Island in order to enquire at first hand into local conditions; and they also granted numerous interviews to deputations and individuals representative of all classes and sections of the community. The visit has been highly appreciated by the loyal inhabitants of Jamaica, as indicating that the Secretary of State for the Colonies is desirous of establishing closer relations with this and other ancient possessions of the Crown.

The following Resolution, which was passed unanimously by the Legislative Council, fitly expresses popular feeling on the subject:—

"That the Legislative Council of Jamaica desires to place on record its appreciation of the recent visit to the Island of the Honourable "E. F. L. Wood, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Honourable W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. R. Wiseman, "of the Colonial Office, to investigate conditions on behalf of His "Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

"This Council feels that the survey of some phases of conditions "which exist in this Colony by Mr. Wood and Party will give Jamaica that contact at the Colonial Office which will enable those "in authority more readily to appreciate the aims and aspirations of "the people of the Island.

"This Council further desires to accord its thanks to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the prompt manner in which he granted the request of Parliamentarians and others that a Mission be sent to the West Indies to gather first-hand information on matters which have been agitating the minds of loyal subjects of His Majesty the King in these colonies for some time. It is the hope of this Council that the recent visit of the Colonial Office Mission to Jamaica will be the forerunner of similar visits in the years to come for the development of closer intercourse between the Colonial Office and this ancient outpost of Empire."

Emigration and Immigration.

23. The Departures in 1919, were 23,618; in 1920, 21,343; in 1921, 15,777, which number includes 578 Immigrants who were repatriated to India.

The arrivals in 1919, were 8,786; in 1920, 23,783; in 1921, 17,463.

24. On account of the conditions in Cuba arising out of the sudden drop in the price of sugar it was represented that great distress prevailed among the Jamaican and other West Indian labourers who had emigrated to that Republic to work on Sugar Estates, as they suddenly found themselves not only without employment but unable to obtain payment of wages due to them, on account of the declaration of a local moratorium. It was accordingly decided, with the concurrence of the British Minister at Havana, to send to Cuba an Officer of the Jamaica Government for the purpose of assisting in the repatriation of those Jamaicans who might wish to return.

Mr. J. W. Sheridan, who was selected, left for Cuba in July, 1921, where he was associated with the British Consul at Santiago one of his duties being so supervise the embarkation of natives of this Colony in conjunction with the Consular Officer, Agent for the local authorities of Eastern Cuba. Mr. Sheridan was also instructed to assist as far as practicable, the men returning to Jamaica to obtain payment of promissory notes, etc., or to secure for them before they left Cuba, acknowledgment of debts due; in the alternative, to obtain from each person written authority to act on his behalf.

Mr. Sheridan remained in Cuba for about four months and reported that conditions were not as bad as rumour had indicated.

Altogether some 300 persons were repatriated by vessels specially provided for the purpose; and in addition about 100 free passages were secured on the ordinary ships plying between Cuba and Jamaica.

Public Health and Sanitation.

25. Matters in connection with the health and sanitation of the island have been receiving, for some time past, the earnest attention of the Government, and active steps were taken during the year under review for dealing with such matters.

26. The Rockefeller Foundation continued their operations in Jamaica in connection with the treatment of Hookworm (ankylostomiasis) and the United Fruit Company carried on the system for medical attendance on their employees. Both these organisations have materially contributed to improve general health conditions in the island. During the year under review the Government instituted a Sanitary Survey in the parish of St. Catherine and the parish was divided into 4 areas. After Sanitation by the Government, the Rockefeller Foundation instituted a system of active treatment.

27. It is contemplated to appoint a Senior Sanitary Medical Officer and to obtain for the Island a general Sanitary Service. With this service in operation, general sanitation will receive considerable impetus.

28. The epidemic of Alastrim or Kaffir Milk Pox, which occurred during last year, still existed in the year under review, but to a much milder extent.

General Vaccination as a protective measure was largely carried out during the year.

Vital Statistics.

29. The estimated population of Jamaica at the close of the year 1921 was 871,114 which is arrived at by taking the actual Census count of 24th April, 1921, adding thereto the Births and Arrivals and deducting therefrom the Deaths and Departures in the intervening period to 31st December, 1921.

30. 3,047 marriages were registered during 1921, the rate being 3.5 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 4.8 for 1920. During the same period 30,064 births were registered, of which 15,276 were boys and 14,788 were girls. The birth rate works out at 34.9 per 1000 as against 40.8 during 1920.

31. 24,383 deaths were registered of which 12,044 were males and 12,399 females, the death rate being 28.3 per thousand. That for 1920 was 25.3

During 1921, 8,337 or 34.2 of the total deaths, were those of children under two years of age; and of these 5,924 or 24.3 were those of children under one year of age.

The corresponding figures in 1920 were 35.2 and 27.8. The total infantile death-rate under one year was 19.7 as compared with 17.2 in 1920.

The principal causes of death among the inhabitants of Kingston, the Capital, were:—

Diarrhoea and Enteritis, 14.8; Atrophy, Icterus and Scleroma of the new born, 8.5; Phthisis, 8.2; Enteric Fever, 7.1. Pneumonia, 6.8; Heart Disease, 4.6. Chronic Brights Disease, 3.7. Cerebral Haemorrhage, Apoplexy, 3.3.

Imports and Exports.

32. As was to be expected conditions in the year 1921 were gradually getting back to the normal. The amount of Import Duties collected during 1921-22 was £660,700 being £296,600 below that of the previous year which was £957,300. When compared with the yield in 1919-20, a semi-abnormal year, that of the present year is found to be only £30,400 less, while it was £268,800 over that in 1918-19. The value of the Imports in 1921 was £5,473,800 as against £10,313,309 in 1920, £5,085,600 in 1919 and £2,837,000 in the pre-war year 1913, so that in the year 1921 the value was nearly twice as much as that of the pre-war year 1913. The factors responsible for the decrease in 1921 were practically the reverse of those resulting in the increase of 1920. The soaring values of the advalorem goods came to a sudden stop at the beginning of the year and a decline set in and there being still a large amount of unconsumed merchandise there was a noticeable falling off of fresh importations. The rise in the rate of exchange between the Colony and the United States of America also had a lowering effect on the values of the Advalorem Goods from that Country and hence on the duties collected on them. Greater decreases may have resulted had not the

quantities of the rated articles imported kept up to the mark and even shown the following appreciable increases:

Fish Dried, Salted	..	..	3,611,400 lbs. increase
Oils	..	..	826,300 galls. "
Salt, fine	..	..	2,628,100 lbs. "
Sugar, refined	..	..	897,200 lbs. "

33. Duties collected in respect of Harbour and Light Fees realized the sum of £6,800 being slightly below the yield in 1919-20. During the year concessions were granted by Law to vessels belonging to the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, Ltd. and vessels plying between Australia and Europe.

34. The Special Customs Duties imposed temporarily, viz: Additional Import Duties and Export Duties, were again imposed, the former for the year and the latter, however, in a reduced form and for two months only as from the 1st April, 1921. They realized the sums of £48,530 and £675, respectively. The abolition in the case of the Export tax on Logwood and Logwood Extracts had a stimulating effect on the Logwood Extract Industry and in the case of that on Hides brought to life again the export trade in Hides which was quite dead. The Package Tax Law 9 of 1919, again continued by Law 2 of 1921, resulted in a total of £49,219. Three-fourths, as heretofore is allocated by Law to General Revenue, viz: £36,914, and the remaining one-fourth to Parochial Revenue.

35. The decline in the prices of our products mentioned in last year's report had the effect in reducing the value of the Exports to less than half that of the previous year, being £3,357,700 in 1921 as against £7,146,000 in 1920 and £5,627,300 in 1919. It was however £672,900 over the value for 1918, a fairly normal year, which showed £2,684,800. It was noted in last year's report that seven items were responsible for £6,148,700 or 86% of the total value, these being Sugar, Bananas, Logwood Extract, Coconuts, Logwood, Rum and Cocoa. These items in 1921 amounted to £2,625,200, being 78% of the total value showing a decrease of £3,523,500 of which decrease Sugar accounted for £2,485,400, Logwood Extract for £322,300, Logwood £240,700 and Cocoa for £114,400. The decrease in value is illustrated by the following details. Taking extremes we find that Sugar dropped from £75 to £14 per ton, Bananas from £20 to £8 per 100 stems, Coconuts from £14 to £4 per thousand nuts, and Rum from 8/ to 1/9 per gallon. Quantities, on the other hand, are not to be despised, Coconuts reaching the 24 million mark, as against 28 millions the year before, while Bananas reached the total of 9,959,200 stems, being nearly a million more than the year before; Cocoa, Coffee, Pimento and Rum also showed appreciable increases in quantity.

36. The preference granted in respect of Cotton Piece-goods in 1920 to the British Empire remained in force during 1921 and although there was only a slight shifting of trade in these goods, it is evident that had there been no preference the foreign goods would have been in greater favour, being very much cheaper than the British articles. The proportion of British Trade in this commodity was 38% in 1921 as against 36% in 1920 and 16% in 1919. Although the Canadian Trade Agreement between Canada and the British West Indian Colonies had been ratified, this Colony had not yet given the Dominion a Preference. Canada had on the other hand extended to Jamaica for the greater portion of the year the Preference she was giving to the other Colonies.

37. For the purpose of comparison there is set out below the value of the Imports and Exports of the Island during the last 40 years and the amount collected as Import Duties.

	1881. £	1891. £	1901. £	1911. £	1921. £
Value of Imports	1,392,700	1,759,900	1,755,900	2,865,600	5,473,800
Value of Exports	1,178,600	1,722,100	1,939,100	2,948,100	3,357,700
Import Duties	253,900	319,800	350,100	494,400	660,700

38. It will be seen that during the forty years the value of the Imports increased 298%, the value of the Exports 185% and the amount of Import Duties 150%, the majority of these increases taking place in the last two decades and particularly in the last one. It is also seen that in respect of the years compared above the value of the Exports was from four and a half to six times the value of the Import Duties, the variation being from 4.6 to 5.9 times. If the thirty years from 1881 to 1911 are taken as more or less normal times, it is found that on the average the Import Duties were 18.4% of the value of the Exports and that for the year 1921 there was very little difference, the percentage being 18.8%. This shows a distinct tendency to return to normal times, although had it not been for the sudden slump in the prices of our products the value would have been greater and consequently the percentage lower.

39. It is not advisable to gauge the value of the Imports from the amount of the Import Duties collected as the former include goods which pay a specific rate of duty and goods on which no duty is paid. During 1921 Government importations amounted to £389,500, being an increase of 715% in twenty years. The articles mainly responsible for the very large increase were Railway Materials, Metals, Coal and Paper (Printing and Stationery—).

40. On the whole the year 1921 turned out much better than was expected and what with increased Shipping facilities to the Dominion of Canada, prospects of closer trade with that country, expectations of better prices for our products and the prayed-for absence of our dreaded enemy the hurricane (from which we had a providential escape during the year) the outlook for the coming year is far from discouraging. The exceedingly low prices dealt heavy blows to our Cane Industry but the Banana Trade is again coming to the rescue. Further, since the close of the year, Sugar has increased in price and hopes are entertained of a still further advance.

II. Government Finance.

41. The following statement shows totals of Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony during the past five years:—

1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
£	£	£	£	£
1,052,485	1,157,304	1,802,778	2,347,362	*1,920,807

*These figures are subject to audit.

Expenditure.

1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
£	£	£	£	£
1,098,409	1,228,608	1,444,818	2,332,635	*2,247,231

The approximate total Expenditure during the year 1921-22 was *£326,424 more than the approximate total Revenue.

42. The Assets and Liabilities were *£1,258,610 and *£1,240,733, respectively. The credit balance at the close of the year was therefore *£17,877.

43. The amount of Public Debt outstanding at 31st March, 1922, was *£4,063,124.

Taxation.

44. Law 2 of 1921 "A Law to continue various expiring Laws either wholly or as amended hereby." This Law repeals Section 3 of and the Schedule to the Export (Temporary War Duties) Law 1919 (Law 2 of 1919) and substitutes for Section 3 an Export Duty on Logwood Extracts liquid and solid, of £5 per ton to be levied during April and May 1921.

The Law also repeals Sections 2 and 3 and the first and second Schedules of Law 3 of 1916 (The Tariff Temporary Increase) Law 1916), as also Laws 4 and 6 of 1919; whilst there were continued from the 1st April 1921 to the 31st March, 1922 the following laws:

(1) The Export (Temporary War Duties) Law 1919 (Law 2 of 1919) as affected by the repeal in the First Schedule.

(2) The Tariff (Temporary Increase) Law 1916 (Law 3 of 1916) as amended by the Tariff (Temporary Increase) Law 1919 (Law 11 of 1919), and as affected by the repeal of certain portions of Law 3 of 1916 above referred to.

(3) The Post Office (War Tax) Law 1919, (Law 7 of 1919).

(4) The Package Tax (Temporary) Law 1919 (Law 9 of 1919) and

(5) The Excise Duties (Temporary Increase) Law 1920 (Law 9 of 1920.)

Law 15 of 1921. A Law to amend the Coast and Harbour Lights Law 1900 (Law 8 of 1900). This Law (Section 2) exempts steamers plying regularly from New Zealand, Australia or Tasmania to the Atlantic via Jamaica, and Steamers belonging to the Canadian Government Merchant Marine from the payment of any dues, imposed under Law 8 of 1900 for the years 1921-23.

Law 20 of 1921. A Law to amend "The Civil Service Widows and Orphans Pension Law 1904 (Law 21 of 1904.)

This Law makes provisions in case an officer appointed to the Civil Service of Jamaica from another Colony desires to contribute to pension fund in such Colony.

Law 21 of 1921. A Law further to amend the Income Tax Laws.

This Law is referred to in the remarks under the head of "Income Tax."

Law 23 of 1921. A Law to provide an allowance for Military Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men in lieu of exemption from certain Import Duties.

Law 13 of 1873 is repealed by this Law and a fixed scale of allowances is allowed to certain ranks in the Army in lieu of the exemption from Import Duty of provisions, wines, spirits and malt liquors, imported for the use of the Military Staff and Regimental Messes in this Island.

*These figures are subject to audit.

Income Tax.

45. As soon as the original Income Tax Law No. 24 of 1919 reached the stage of practical working, it was found to require amendment in certain respects. The following Laws designed to effect the required purpose were accordingly enacted, viz:

Income Tax Amendment Law No. 39 of 1920.—In addition to strengthening existing provisions, and introducing new sections to cover liabilities not dealt with, or fully dealt with in the original Law, the amendment law extended exemption from duty to the incomes of Parochial Boards, the Kingston General Commissioners, and any Government Institutions, also to the pay and allowances of members of His Majesty's Regular Forces on the Active List, wounds and disability pensions and War gratuities.

No provision was made in the original law for repayment of duty, except (under section 13) in the case of incomes "doubly assessed." This omission was remedied in the Amendment Law.

Income Tax Amendment Law 1920—(No. 2) No. 50-1920—This consisted of only one section, introduced at the instance of the Insurance Companies doing business in this Island, in order to lay down the precise basis on which the returns of the assessable incomes of life and other Insurance Companies should be rendered.

Income Tax Amendment Law (1921 No. 3) No. 21-1921—This amendment contains several important provisions, the principal being the repeal, at the instance of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, of Section 39 of the Original Law, which dealt with "double Income Tax within the Empire." By such repeal a large amount of duty estimated at £27,000 has been automatically added to the Jamaica Income Tax Revenue entirely at the expense of the Home Government the total aggregate duty payable by persons assessed to Income Tax both in this Island and the United Kingdom remaining unaltered.

Another important provision is the assessment on a non-resident person in the name of his Attorney, Agent, Branch or Manager *whether such Attorney, Agent, Branch or Manager has the receipts of the profits or gains or not.*

Provision is also made for assessment on such non-resident person on a percentage basis where the true amount of the profits or gains cannot be readily ascertained.

Other provisions are (a) where a trade or profession is carried on by partners, a return of the profits of such partnership to be rendered by the precedent partner, (b) relieving sections permitting the trade, etc., losses of one year to be carried forward and set against the profits of the three following years, and a deduction in respect of "Obsolescence" in cases where plant and machinery are replaced by that of an improved type, (c) the repeal of Section 27 of the original Law by which Interest was charged on Income Tax in arrear.

Currency.

46. Under Law 27 of 1904, local Currency Notes, which are made legal tender under Section 5, have been issued to the extent of £111,960 15/ in denominations of 2/6, 5/ and 10/.

2/6 notes.			5/ notes.			10/ notes.			Total.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
2,614	10	0	55,706	5	0	53,640	0	0	111,960	15	0

III—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

Trade.

47. The year 1921 discloses that there was a balance of trade against Jamaica thus.

Value of Imports	£5,473,800
Value of Exports	3,357,700
	<hr/>
Balance	£2,116,100
	<hr/>

This seems a large sum but it is considerably less than that of 1920 which was £3,167,300 or over a million pounds more. It must, however, be remembered that the still fairly high prices of Advalorem Goods, increased quantities of foodstuffs imported, and a rate of exchange yet far below the standard rate helped greatly to keep up the value of the Imports, while the small prices of our products, particularly Sugar, forced down the value of the Exports.

48. In four years the net balance of trade against Jamaica was over four and a half million pounds (£4,586,600) and this has to be met from capital, interest on capital and loans, a large portion of which in 1921 consisted of Government loans, to the sugar planters. However, with prospects of better prices for our Sugar, Rum and other products, the assurance of successful Fruit Trade, and the knowledge that there is no prospect of the values of imports being again inflated to the extent that occurred in 1920, there is every reason to hope that in a year or two we may be able to show a more favourable balance of trade. In this connection it is to be remembered that the value of the Imports is the value C.I.F. and that the value of the Exports is the value F.O.B.

49. There has been again changes in the sources of supply, and the destination of our products. In the case of the Imports the United States of America still supply the major portions of our foodstuffs and nearly all of our Raw Materials, while in Manufactured Articles the United Kingdom has succeeded in drawing level, each country capturing 45% of that trade. Canada on the other hand, has shown a slight increase all round and during the coming year (the preference having been granted to her at the end of the first quarter) it can be safely expected that she will furnish a large percentage of our supply, especially Foodstuffs. The importations from 'Other Countries' also showed a slight increase, due probably to the efforts of German manufacturers to re-establish their trade with the Colony. With regard to the Exports there was a decrease of 13.1% in the value of the Exports to the United Kingdom, while the United States of America shows an increase of 20.2%, Canada on the other hand showing a decrease of 9.5%, the price of Sugar being mainly responsible. It is however interesting to note that, so far as quantities are concerned, Canada took 51.4% of our Coffee and 54.6% of our Sugar, while the United Kingdom 60.6% of our Cocoa, and 82.9% of our Rum and the United States of America took 66.7% of our Coconuts and 82.9% of our Bananas. In the case of 'Other Countries' there was again a slight increase of 2.4% due mainly to the fact of markets being found in Germany, Holland and other continental countries for our products, chief among them being Cocoa, Coffee and Pimento.

Agriculture and Industry. •

50. Agriculturally 1921 was a good year for Jamaica, the rainfall for the island was nearly 84 inches over the average, while the distribution was good. It is true that the consequences of the great drought of 1920 were still in evidence in the case of some crops.

51. The drought of 1920 was reflected in the Sugar crop of 1921, so that the Exports fell to 26,000 tons, or a reduction of 8,000 tons on those of 1920. The loss in value, however, was enormous and without precedent in the history of the Colony's Sugar Industry, for the value of the Exports of Sugar last year was only a little more than one-sixth of that in 1920 when it stood at £3,000,000. Jamaica is now favoured with preferential treatment for her Sugar both in the United Kingdom and the Dominion of Canada. It is interesting to note that 55 per cent. of the sugar in 1921 went to the Canadian Market, while 41 per cent. was sold in the English Market. The position of Rum has been indeed a difficult one for the producers in Jamaica. The Export records show that in 1921, 9,500 puncheons of Rum were shipped, as against 7,400 puncheons in the previous year, but it is unfortunately true that a good deal of this Rum remains still unsold in English and Scottish bonded stores with small prospects of immediate sale.

52. The severe blow which the Sugar Industry has so suddenly received in the violent swing of the pendulum from a period of high prices to one below the present cost of production has reacted adversely on the activity of planters as regards improved methods of Sugar cultivation, new varieties and the treatment of the Mosaic Disease.

53. The North Indian "Uba" cane which was obtained from Natal in 1916 has been found to be a valuable cane for many purposes in Jamaica.

The Experiment Station has been freed from Mosaic Disease by persistent destruction of infected plants and a good collection of the best canes from Barbados has been established for trial.

The Hope Nursery broke the previous record in the distribution of canes by the issue to the public of nearly 200,000 tops of selected varieties in 1921.

54. The Banana Industry has continued to prosper and although the records show that only ten million stems were exported, or one million more than in 1920, this by no means represents the true state of the Industry which is rapidly recovering its pre-war standard. Panama Disease has extended its incidence during the year and in some areas has shown signs of spontaneous activity apart from direct infection. Two more Inspectors were appointed in December and a further increase of staff to a total of 8 Inspectors has been authorised. The utmost efforts of the Government and the planters of all grades are required to control this dangerous disease of the banana.

55. The Coconut Industry has suffered from glutted markets. The Export of nuts was 24 million only, as against 28 million nuts in 1920. Copra shows a slight increase in quantity but a reduction in value. The resuscitation of the European Markets is a vital factor affecting the success of the Coconut Industry and it is hoped that some improvement may be felt during the coming year. At the moment coconuts are almost unmarketable and the planters are suffering from loss of sales.

56. Logwood, from a position of absolute stagnation, has recently made a moderate recovery. Logwood Extract brought in 1921 £109,000 as against £431,000 in 1920. The Exports of Logwood were valued at

£28,000 as against the fine total of £269,000 in the previous year. With the recovery to normal of the textile and leather industries log-wood should again revert to a position of real value and stability as an asset of the Colony.

56. Orange Oil sold fairly well and brought in about £40,000. The small export trade in Citrus fruits remained steady at the same standard as in 1920

57. Cocoa showed a welcome recovery in quantity, but the prices were poor and the value of this staple was only £97,000 as against the high record of £212,000 in the previous year.

58. Coffee greatly increased in quantity due to a more favourable season, to 3,200 tons, as against 2,000 tons in the previous year. Blue Mountain Coffee has continued to sell at high prices in England while the ordinary coffees, suffered from the general drop in values.

59. Pimento was for a long time quite unsaleable and this staple has been greatly depressed in value. Over 4,000 tons of pimento were exported in 1921 of the declared value of £11 per ton. In 1920, 3,000 tons of Pimento fetched over three times this price.

60. The Pimento Oil industry has been further investigated by the Industrial Chemist who has during the year distilled leaves from male and female trees collected in every month of the year from various pimento-growing centres. The outcome of this investigation is that, where pimento leaves and wood fuel are available, the industry of making pimento leaf oil would be a profitable one under present conditions, in which such oil is worth 8/ to 10/ per lb. in the world's markets. A local capitalist has announced his intention of supplying the funds for establishing a factory capable of producing 10,000, lbs. of oil per annum on a large property where the conditions for the pimento oil industry are favourable. The data obtained by the Department as to yields, composition of the oil and sale value abroad, which have resulted from these researches, are the basis upon which the new industry will be founded.

61. The Sisal Hemp Industry is now commencing the era of manufacture and export. Three Factories in Clarendon and the Government Enterprise at Lititz will all be in operation during the coming year so as to produce an appreciable output of fibre.

The third trial of the experimental acre of Sisal at Lititz was most encouraging. The fibre recovered rose to 5.7 per cent and a total yield 1,433 lbs. of fibre per acre was obtained. Within two years this experimental plot has yielded at the rate of 3,390 lbs. per acre from 93 leaves per plant harvested during the trial period. The fibre grown at Lititz is very fine in texture and yet strong, with an average breaking strain of 3 lbs per fibre.

62. The trade in hides has suffered from the general stagnation of industries and the penkeepers have lost in the sale of their cattle to butchers through the reduced value obtainable for the hides. Goat skins, however, have kept up very well, and an export value of £21,000 for goat skins was recorded for the year

63. Cigars show a decrease of 30 per cent in quantity and a reduction of £40,000 in value over the exports of the previous year. The Tobacco industry is suffering seriously from unfavourable conditions and a considerable reduction in the area planted in tobacco has recently taken place.

64. The Government Stud Farm at Grove Place was opened to the public in April, and has achieved a remarkable success. All the stud animals have been established without loss and have each worked

satisfactorily and been retained in first class condition. The record shows that 480 cows were sent to the bulls by the public, of which 443 were actually served during the year, and that the revenue from Stud Fees was £414, as against the budget estimate of £200.

Favourable reports have been received of the progeny of these imported Sires, and it is clear that the Farm will soon produce appreciable results in improving stock all over the island.

The co-operative importation of 46 Zebu Cattle from India was at length completed in March, 1922.

The results of this enterprise are as follows:—

Gugerats	..	..	6 Bulls
Hissars	..	..	16 Bulls
Montgomerys	..	..	2 Bulls
Nellores	..	..	12 Bulls
Nellores	..	..	6 Heifers
Mysores	..	..	9 Bulls

(Amrit Mahal)

65. An order was issued in December making it compulsory for all owners of 100 head of stock to construct a dipping tank before the 1st May, 1922. This has now been modified so as to allow of an extension of time to the 1st August. There are 74 dipping tanks now registered with the Department which use the Departmental dip of Farnaph and Arsenite of Soda. This Service saved the planters over £1,000 for the supply of dipping material during the year and it is now clear that as soon as all the new dipping tanks required by the Order are completed the Laboratory will be saving the public over £5,000 per annum by supplying a cheap and effective dip which replaces the proprietary article at about one-third the cost of the latter.

66. The experimental plant for the manufacture of condensed milk was erected during the year. This is capable of making 25 tins in a batch, and will enable a reliable test of the possibility of making condensed milk in Jamaica to be carried out.

IV.—PROGRESS IN THE INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

67. With the exception of a small amount of triangulation survey work which has within recent years been carried out by the Military Authorities for their own information, the Island has never been properly surveyed, and therefore its area cannot be said to have been accurately determined. It is however estimated to contain 2,692,480 acres, of which 2,411,580 acres have been alienated, leaving 280,900 neither alienated nor in process of alienation, about 10,000 acres of which is morass land.

68. Alienation began immediately after the Spaniards were driven out of Jamaica in 1655, for in the month of October of that year, under the Cromwellian regime, the Protector issued a Proclamation with regard to the settlement of the Island in which it was provided, *inter alia*, that, "Those who shall transport themselves (i.e. to Jamaica) as aforesaid shall have land set forth unto them according to the proportion of 20 acres besides lakes and rivers for every male of 12 years and upwards and ten acres for every other male or female, etc., etc."

The process of alienation, rather slow at first, was considerably accelerated during the earlier part of the eighteenth century on account of the development of the sugar and rum industries, and the cultivation

of Coffee, with the result that, at the close of the century, the total acreage of estates had increased to an extent more than commensurate with their requirements.

69. The abolition of slavery in 1838 and the adverse fortunes of Sugar caused abandonment of a large number of properties, and in process of time these were squatted on by persons having no equitable claim to them.

70. Between the years 1867 and 1887 the Government by successive legislative enactments became trustees of all lands in the possession of persons without any legal or equitable title, and in this way upwards of 27,000 acres were recovered from 1,600 squatters. The lands so recovered are scattered all over the Island. Some of it has been restored to its rightful owners, some has been sold, and some still remains in possession of the Government.

71. During the year 1899 the Jamaica Railway was sold to the West India Improvement Co., one of the conditions of the purchase being that the Government should give them one square mile of Government land for every mile of Rail road constructed, and about the year 1894, 74,443 acres were conveyed to the Company, leaving 2,367 acres to be conveyed later on. In 1911 this large acreage passed back into the hands of the Government, who then purchased it for £18,500.

72. Within recent years, the Government has granted to 297 time-expired East Indian Immigrants 3,300 acres in lieu of return passage to India, each adult receiving 10 acres, with an additional acre for each child born in the Island.

73. The scheme for the sale of Crown lands to small settlers, which was inaugurated in 1897, is still in operation, and up to the 31st Decr., 1921, 47,465 acres have been sold, and put in possession of instalment and outright purchasers. The most notable grant made during the past twelve months, is 31 acres to one purchaser for £151. In all cases in which the full amount of purchase money has been paid the purchasers have received title from the Government.

74. There is a large number of praedial tenants on the Crown lands who pay rent at from 12/ to 16/ per nominal acre per annum.

75. While the value of private property has greatly increased during the past three years, Crown lands are still being sold at from £1 to £4 per acre, according to their situation. These prices were in existence long before the outbreak of War, the lands being for the most part in remote situations and difficult of access.

76. As regards progress in the investigation and development of the natural resources of the Island, little has been done by the Government beyond the publication of a Report by James G. Sawkins, F.G.S. on "The Geology of Jamaica" in 1869; and a Report upon "The Forests of Jamaica" by E. D. M. Hooper of the Indian Forestry Department in 1886.

77. There is no Forestry Department in this Island, and the cultivation of timber trees is an unknown industry. Almost all the timber which clothed the plains and much of that which clothed the hill slopes up to 2,500 feet above sea level, and in some places up to 4,500 feet has been destroyed. In a few places destruction has extended to a higher elevation than 5,000 feet.

78. The history of forest denudation may be described as the history of peasant cultivation and goes back to the days of slavery, during which it was decided by an Act of the local Legislature that an acre of yam

was to be grown for every ten slaves. We have it on the authority of Mr. Hooper that "It is an undoubted fact that the forests are becoming poorer and the area under hardwoods smaller, and this without the woods being utilized for their timber, or the area under cultivation or pasture, materially increased by the clearing of the land." Mr. Hooper's remarks are of the same cogency to-day as when they were written 34 years ago.

79. With reference to mining, it appears that attempts at exploiting this industry were made from the earliest times in the known history of the Island, and it might not be out of place here to state that in 1511, the King of Spain in a despatch to Diego Colon, the son of the discoverer of Jamaica, wrote as follows:

"Juan de Esquivel (the first Governor of Jamaica) and the Christians in Xaymaca should endeavour to find gold." In 1519 the King "ordered the "Controller" of Jamaica to "report every year as to the "gold smelteries" and in 1521 the Spanish Sovereign announced that "colonists should only pay one-tenth instead of one-fifth of the gold "smelted for the next 8 years." In 1601 Melgarejo de Cordova, the then Governor wrote that he was informed that "in the Bastidas Mountains" (eastern part of the Blue Mountain) there was "a large amount of gold."

80. At this time it appears that the existence of copper in the Island was well known, because, in 1597 Pedro d'Acuna, the Governor of Cartagena, wrote to Melgarejo suggesting that he should send him some Jamaica copper ore to be tested, and in the following year the Governor of Jamaica in writing home referred to the copper which he was sending to Cartagena "for the founding of artillery." He refers to "mines situated at sea ports" and wanted the artillery forging done in Jamaica.

The location of these mines appears to have been completely lost on account of the extermination of the native Indians through Spanish cruelty, an epidemic of small pox, and wholesale suicides caused by drinking cassava water.

81. Individuals and Companies have, during the past 70 years, endeavoured to emulate the efforts of the Spanish miners of the 16th century, but none of those efforts were, so far as is known, directed towards, prospecting on the Crown lands, but on properties long since alienated from the Crown.

82. Although not connected with the Crown lands, it might be of some interest here to state that gold was found in the Charing Cross copper mine in Clarendon 60 years ago, and having been mistaken for pyrites, was actually thrown away. In 1857, the Wheel Copper Co. extracted from the Charing Cross mine, 208 tons of copper ore which was shipped to the English and American markets and sold for £2,817 the highest price paid being £24 15s. 0d per ton and the lowest £9 2s. 9d.; the average figure being £13 1s. 3d. per ton.

83. Recent experiments have shown that, by means of a carbonizing process, half-formed coal called "lignite" may be used largely as a substitute for coal, and in this connection it is interesting to recall that about 35 years ago, certain deposits, declared to be "lignite" were found at Lichfield in the parish of Trelawny. The greater portion of Lichfield was in 1915 sold by Government in lots to small settlers who had resided on the property for many years.

84. The geological formations of Jamaica being in many respects similar to those of Cuba, where iron and copper mines have long been successfully worked, there is some reason for entertaining the hope that

scientific research may result in the discovery of valuable deposits in this Island.

Fishing.

85. The condition of the Fishing Industry has not improved since the date of the last report, and it is difficult to account for the reason, in view of the fact that the price of fresh fish has increased considerably and also that the supply is not equal to the demand. The retail price for the better varieties of fresh fish during the year was 1/3d. per lb., which is a record not even equalled during war time, and one would naturally have expected that this, in itself, would have been sufficient reason for attracting more intelligent interest in this lucrative undertaking.

The fishing, however, is still being pursued on primitive lines, by a class of persons who do not display much business enterprise, the result being a short supply and high prices. In the meantime, the money expended for the importation of salted fish, the greater portion of which could and should be circulated in the colony, continues to find its way abroad to the extent of £440,460 in 1920, which does not include the value of cured salmon.

It is hoped that the possibilities of fishing as a fixed industry will soon be realized and that it will be properly financed and controlled. It is a matter for regret that the wealth in the sea, which is so accessible, is not better utilized for the benefit of the Island generally.

Sharkfishing is still being carried on, apparently with success, by the American Company at Port Antonio.

Manufactures.

86. The principal items of our manufactures are Sugar, Rum, Copra, Banana Figs, Orange Oil, Cigars and Cigarettes, Aerated Waters, Ice and Leather.

87. *Sugar*—Previous to the war the bounty fed sugar had crippled our industry so that we find in 1914 an output of only 20,820 hogsheads, while in 1921 there was an output of 32,384 hogsheads with a tendency to a still further increase. The general trend is towards centralization, resulting in large Central Factories with the most modern machinery being established in many localities and many of the smaller Estates dismantling their machinery and becoming Cane Farms to feed the Centrals. The largest of these Centrals already established is the Bernhard Lodge Central in St. Catherine.

88. *Rum*—This valuable by-product of the Sugar Industry made rapid strides from the outbreak of war to 1919 as the following figures show. Output in 1914, 13,788 puncheons; output in 1919, 18,415 puncheons; but owing to the desire to manufacture as much sugar as possible the output in 1920 fell to 14,439 puncheons, and a fall in price caused a further decrease in 1921 to 11,978 puncheons.

89. *Copra*—This industry has only been developed in the past few years. It is one which is largely dependent on the market value of the coconut. If the price is high in the market of the United States of America, it pays better to ship the nuts than to make Copra, certainly the large nuts, and then the small nuts are made into Copra.

90. *Banana Figs*—This is an industry in its infancy, but considerable improvement developed in 1919 and several Factories have been established.

91. *Orange Oil*—This industry is proving of great value and is a means of getting Revenue from the Oranges which formerly went to waste.

92. *Cigars and Cigarettes*—This is an important industry which has been greatly developed in recent years as the exports of these items indicate.

93. *Ice and Aerated Waters*—May be regarded as manufactures for local consumption chiefly.

94. *Leather*—There are tanneries at various centres in the Island and sole and harness leather form an item of our exports. Latterly the finer grades of leather have been manufactured to a small extent.

Water Power.

95 There has been little progress in the development of Water Power. The only plant of importance in the Island, which is operated by water power, is that of the West India Electric Company, Ltd., for the purpose of operating the tramways and electric lighting of Kingston and lower St. Andrew.

96. The desirability of utilizing the water power from some of the rivers for the development of Electric energy has been under consideration and an investigation of many of the rivers in the island has recently been made with this object in view, but no definite schemes have yet materialized.

It is proposed to introduce legislation to control and regulate the use of water for public and private purposes.

97. A small private plant, developing about 250 H.P. by means of dam and reservoir has been installed at Serge Island Sugar Estate in St. Thomas. Power is transmitted some $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the Sugar Factory, Saw Mills, etc.

V.—BANKS AND BANKING FACILITIES.

98. The Commercial Banks doing business in the Island are the Colonial Bank, the Bank of Nova Scotia, the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The Jamaica Head Offices are all in Kingston.

99. The Colonial Bank was established and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836.

Subscribed Capital	:	..	£3,000,000
Paid up Capital	..	..	900,000
Reserve Fund	..	..	400,000

Head Office—29 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. 3.

This Bank has sub-branches at the following towns of the Island:—

Annotto Bay	Montego Bay
Falmouth	Morant Bay
Black River	Port Antonio
Lucea	Port Maria
May Pen	Port Morant
Savanna-la-Mar	St. Ann's Bay

The Colonial Bank also has Branches in most of the other West Indian Islands, in British Guiana, and on the West Coast of Africa.

100. The Bank of Nova Scotia was incorporated in 1832, and holds its Charter under the Canadian Banking Act. The number of branches in Jamaica is 11; they are established at Kingston, Black River, Mandeville, Montego Bay, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, St. Ann's Bay, Savanna-la-Mar, Spanish Town, and Brown's Town. The amount of notes outstanding increased from £96,814 at the end of the March quarter, 1914, to £211,706 at the end of December quarter, 1919, following the increased demand for circulating media in the Colony. The notes outstanding at this date (July 31st) 1922, have been reduced to £66,712. The issue of this Bank's notes is governed by the Canadian Bank Act and the amendments thereto. The notes of any Canadian Chartered Bank are a first charge on all the assets of all the Canadian Chartered Banks. A Canadian Bank may issue notes up to the amount of its paid up capital. Notes issued in excess of this figure are secured by gold deposited with the Canadian government in a Central Gold Reserve.

On June 30, 1922, the Bank's paid up Capital was	\$9,700,000
Reserve Fund	\$19,000,000
Total Assets	\$219,642,994

101. The Royal Bank of Canada (incorporated in 1869) began business in Jamaica in 1911.

Capital authorized	\$25,000,000
Capital paid up	\$20,400,000
Reserve Funds	\$20,400,000

This Bank has sub-branches at Cross Roads, Montego Bay, Spanish Town.

The average circulation at the end of March quarter, 1918, was £27,127, and at the end of July, 1922, £83,200.

102. The Canadian Bank of Commerce (Incorporated in 1867) whose Head Office is in Toronto, Canada, opened a branch in Kingston on 1st Nov., 1920.

Paid up Capital	£3,082,191
Reserve	3,082,191

103. The Government Savings Bank was started in 1870. On the Commercial Banks entering the field, starting Savings Branches, and giving higher rates of interest and more facilities, the deposits in the Government Savings Bank declined. By Law 7 of 1917, the management was entrusted to a Board. New Regulations were drawn up and approved by the Governor in Privy Council on the 4th February, 1919. The renewed activities of the Bank may be said to date from the beginning of 1919, in which year the deposits increased by 71%, and during 1920 by 34%. The deposits on 31st Dec., 1921 amounted to £533,960. The policy of the Board is that the savings of the people should be used to develop the Island. The telegraphic address "Our Bank, Kingston," sufficiently indicates the lines followed to obtain the support of the public. Under Law 7 of 1917, the funds of the Bank may be invested (1) in British and Colonial securities, (2) in loans to Agricultural Loan Societies, (3) in real securities in Jamaica, (4) on deposit in Banks (5) in any other manner authorised by the Governor in Privy Council. Funds for financing land settlement schemes, whereby Loan Banks are enabled to buy large properties, cut them up, and sell the lots to small settlers, have been provided by the Bank. Funds for making loans to Loan Banks to be lent to members for developing their holdings, have also been provided. There are 54 Branches and Postal Agencies

throughout the Island, 19 of the latter having been opened in 1920. Stamp Savings Cards have induced many children and adults to open accounts. Savings Certificates are issued for 16/6, maturing to £1 in five years. Postage and registration to the Bank are free; and no revenue stamp is required on receipts. The same rate of interest as that given by the Commercial Banks, viz. 3% per annum, compounded half-yearly, is allowed on deposits.

104. There are 46 Co-operative Loan Banks on the Register under the Industrial and Provident Societies Law (33 of 1902.) The greater number of these were started early in 1913, in order to handle loans made by the Government for the resuscitation of cultivations damaged by the drought and hurricane of the previous year. Loans were also made through Loan Banks in 1916-17 and 1918. in consequence of the hurricanes of 1916 and 1917. These loans were made through the Agricultural Loan Societies Board under the provisions of Statutes giving the Banks extraordinary powers of recovering loans. Loans have also been made to the Banks under Law 6 of 1912, "A Law for the encouragement of Agricultural Loan Societies," such moneys being used with their own funds for the purpose of making loans to their members for short periods on personal security, note-of hand, mortgage, etc., for agricultural and industrial purposes, e.g., for the purchase of stock, cane mills, tools, and the like. These Banks have supplied a long felt want among the small settlers.

105. The following figures, referring to the 33 Banks which obtained loans from Government funds will serve to show the extent of their operations:—

Loans made on which balances amounting to £24,576 12s 6d	
were outstanding on 31.12.21	£103,456 1 4

106. The Co-operative Loan Banks also collected to 31st December, 1921 a sum of nearly £29,000 share capital. It is evident, therefore, that they have come to stay; and it is expected that the more ambitious of them will extend their sphere of usefulness. The Legislative Council voted a sum of £50,000 for the purpose of making loans to the Banks for the purchase of properties for resale in lots to small settlers. In 1920, £38,734 was advanced to 4 Banks under this head; and this has increased to £47,724 to 6 banks. This scheme was hailed with delight; and promises to be successful.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

107 A brief summary is given below of those Laws passed during the year 1921 which might be of general interest.

(1) Law 2 of 1921—The expiring Laws Continuance Law 1921, continues certain temporary duties.

(2) Law 4 of 1921—The War Expenses (Jamaica Contribution) Law, 1921, provides for the payment to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury of the sum of sixty thousand pounds a year for forty years as a contribution from this Island in reduction of the United Kingdom's War Debt.

(3) Law 10 of 1921—The Sugar Industry Aid Loans Law, 1921, for affording temporary aid for the preservation of the Sugar Industry of the Island.

(4) Law 12 of 1921—The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Law, 1921. A Law to declare the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorised to be raised by the Government of Jamaica and to provide for the creation of Inscribed Stock.

(5) Law 16 of 1921—The Judicature Law 1919 Amendment Law, 1921.

(6) Law 17 of 1921—The Insurance Fund Law 1921 provides for the creation and application of a fund to be called the Insurance Fund which shall be available to provide for extraordinary expenditure rendered necessary by the occurrence of any public calamity in this Island.

(7) Law 18 of 1921—The Indictments Law 1921, amends the Law relating to Indictments in criminal cases and matters incidental or similar thereto.

(8) Law 21 of 1921—The Income Tax Amendment Law, 1921.

(9) Law 22 of 1921—The Jamaica Government Railway and Miscellaneous Works Loan Law, 1921. A Law to make provision for certain capital works necessary for the working of the Jamaica Government Railway and also to make provision for certain public works and for raising a loan for the purpose.

(10) Law 23 of 1921—The Import Duties (Military Allowances) Law, 1921 provides an allowance for Military Officers, non-commissioned officers and men in lieu of exemption from certain import duties.

(11) Law 24 of 1921—The Deceased Wife's sister Marriage Law Amendment Law, 1921. A Law to remove doubts as to the validity of marriages contracted between a man and his deceased brother's wife.

(12) Law 25 of 1921—The Fruit Inspection Law, 1921—provides, for the inspection of fruit intended for exportation and also to prevent the exportation of immature and unfit fruit.

(13.) Law 27 of 1921—The Statute Law (Revised Edition) Law, 1921, makes provision for the preparation and publication of a new and revised edition of the Laws of the Island.

(14) Law 28 of 1921—The Local Clearing Office (Austria & Bulgaria) Law 1921. A Law to establish the existing Local Clearing Office as the Local Clearing Office for the settlement of Austrian debts and to appoint an Administrator for the settlement of Bulgarian debts.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Elementary.

108. During the early part of the year the attendance at many schools appears to have been affected by the epidemics of Alastrim and Measles, though no schools were reported as closed in consequence. The average attendance for the year shows an increase of over 1,500 and the number on registers of over 7,000, the numbers being 61,447 and 99,956 as compared with 59,930 and 92,176 in 1920.

109. The staff of Inspectors was still incomplete at the end of the year, but the number of Assistant Inspectors was completed by four new appointments.

110. A revision of the new system of classification and grading of schools and teachers, the number of grades being reduced from eight to five, received Legislative sanction in July with effect as from 1st January. The consequent necessity for more regular supervision is yet not fully appreciated by many of the Managers and many Teachers appear to have not yet realized that Garden or Nature Study work and Friday Sessions are essential parts of the new system.

111. The Departmental expenditure on Education was £143,455 as compared with £123,053 during the previous year.

Secondary.

112. The Government grants-in-aid have enabled the Secondary Schools to increase their staffs and to offer better salaries. Some of them have raised their fees to enable them to go further in this direction.

113. The question of making adequate provision for pensions is still under consideration and a Pension Bill has been drafted.

114. The available accommodation in the Secondary Schools is inadequate. There are waiting lists in many Schools, even though some of these are already over-crowded and districts at long distances from any School feel the need of further provision for boys and girls whose parents cannot afford boarding fees. The subject is being carefully studied, regard being had to the needs of the whole Island rather than to particular cases.

Technical.

115. The Government Technical and Continuation School, Kingston continued its normal courses of instruction throughout the year and a more advanced course of instruction in Woodwork for Teachers was in progress during the Christmas holidays.

116. The Manual Training (woodwork) centres attached to Elementary Schools in some of the chief towns were all in operation throughout the year, most of them doing useful work.

Industrial.

117. The Industrial Schools continued their usual good work, the boys getting useful training in Agriculture, Carpentry and Joinery, Tailoring, etc., and the girls in Domestic work. The enlargement of the Broughton Home in Manchester was completed and the new Industrial School for Boys near Montego Bay was ready for inmates before the close of the year, whilst satisfactory progress was made in providing buildings for the new Girls' Home at Carron Hall in St. Mary.

VIII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

118. The rainfall for the year 1921 was 83.74 inches, a little above the average 76.46 inches. Excessive rains fell in January and May.

The rainfall was above the average during the first part of the year and below during the latter part.

Temperature.

119. In Kingston the mean temperature for the year was the average viz: 78.06. The highest maximum was 92.8 degrees in September, and the lowest minimum 65.5 degrees in March.

Weather Disturbances.

120. There was a hurricane to the east of Jamaica in September but it travelled northward over Haiti, and though the barometers at the East end fell the weather was not affected. Another disturbance developed to the south-west in October, but moved north-westerly on to Cuba.

Hailstorms.

121. There were falls of hail at Santa Cruz on the 5th and 26th of September.

Earthquakes.

122. There were seven shocks of earthquake recorded during the latter half of the year; none, however, were of any great intensity. The shock in November was heavier than any that occurred for some time but fortunately no damage was done.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railway.

123. The Jamaica Government Railway traverses the Island of Jamaica by two main branches:—

- (a) Kingston to Montego Bay.
- (b) Spanish Town to Port Antonio.

In both cases, from the south to the north side of the Island, the line runs across the high mountains which form the backbone of the Island. In addition, there are also two minor branches running into the interior of the Island, viz., from May Pen to Chapelton off the Montego Bay Branch; and from Bog Walk to Ewarton off the other main branch, Spanish Town to Port Antonio. The total length of the Railway track at present is 200 miles. The gauge is standard, 4 feet 8½ inches. The ruling gradient is 1 in 30 combined with 5 chain curves.

124. The Revenue for the year ended 31st Dec., 1921, was £356,839 and the expenditure £384,594, no provision is made for depreciation.

125. The total goods carried during the year were 221,861 tons, as compared with 199,389 for the year ended 31st December, 1914; the number of passengers carried increased from 590,050 in 1914, to 639,638 in 1921.

126. During the current year the following Rolling Stock, part of that which had been ordered during 1920, was erected and put into service, viz:

28 Covered wagons and 1 new passenger coach.

127. A survey of the extension of the Railway from Chapelton to Frankfield, a distance of 10 miles, was carried out, and the extension of the line has now been sanctioned. This extension will traverse a settled area, and it will form a part of the eventual line to Cascade, or beyond, a distance of 23 miles from the present terminus at Chapelton. There will be two or three Sidings between Chapelton and Frankfield, to meet local requirements in the handling of Sugar Canes, Bananas, Ground provisions, and Passenger Traffic.

Reconnaissances of the proposed extensions from Chapelton to Falmouth and Montego Bay and from Highgate to Gayle, have also been made.

128. Trials were carried out during the year under review with the set of Cil Fuel fittings referred to in paragraph 128 of last Annual General Report. Successful results were obtained on Passenger Train work but some difficulty was found in hauling maximum loads in the Hill Section; the latter difficulty was being overcome when the trials had to be suspended owing to the comparatively high price of Fuel Oil.

129. So as to meet the growing demands of the public it will be necessary in the near future to carry out a large programme of new works, chargeable to Capital Account, and it is hoped that provision will be made for this during the coming year by raising a loan.

130. The management of the Railway is assisted by an Advisory Board of 10 members, consisting of the Director and nine others, chiefly local business men who advise the Government when necessary in matters of policy.

Shipping.

131. In 1921, 1,339 vessels, steam and sail, of 1,753,242 tons entered and 1,271 of 1,719,496 tons cleared. During the year 1920, 1,307 vessels, steam and, sail of 1,778,256 tons entered at Ports in the Colony and 1,285 vessels, steam and sail, of 1,755,532 tons cleared at Ports in the Colony.

132. The following are the figures for the past seven years:—

1915	..	..	Entered	914—1,251,722 tons
1916	..	..	“	977—1,230,803 tons
1917	..	..	“	901—1,045,443 tons
1918	..	..	“	772—593,328 tons
1919	..	..	“	1,152—1,046,961 tons
1920	..	..	“	1,307—1,778,256 tons
1921	..	..	“	1,339—1,753,262 tons
1915	..	..	“	931—1,304,687 tons
1916	..	..	Cleared	948—1,208,775 tons
1917	..	..	“	874—1,019,490 tons
1918	..	..	“	746—583,697 tons
1919	..	..	“	1,148—1,037,981 tons
1920	..	..	“	1,285—1,755,532 tons
1921	..	..	“	1,271—1,719,496 tons

133. The following well-established Steamship Lines are now serving the Colony, viz: The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Leyland Line, Elders and Fyffes, Harrison Line, Pickford and Black, Canadian Government Mercantile Marine; these are British Companies.

United Fruit Company, Atlantic Fruit Company, Clyde Steamship Company, Caribbean Steamship Company, Jamaica Fruit and Shipping Company, and Windward Island Line; these are U.S.A. Companies.

The Royal Dutch West India Mail; a Dutch Company.

134. It will be interesting to observe that there were in 1913 the following nine Steamship Lines engaged in business with this Colony.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, the Leyland Line, Elders & Fyffes, Harrison Line, Pickford & Black, British Companies, Hamburg-American Line, Atlas Service and Hamburg-American Line, (European Service); German Companies; United Fruit Company, Atlantic Fruit Company, U.S.A. Companies.

135. In 1921 there were, as enumerated above, thirteen Steamship Lines—an increase of 4 Lines, made up of two British and two Foreign.

136. A word may be said on the subject of ship-building activities in a small way. The following are the figures:—

Ships Built.

1913	..	..	1—21 tons
1914	..	..	1—62 tons
1915	..	..	1—33 tons
1916	..	..	3—110 tons
1917	..	..	Nil
1918	..	..	2—64 tons
1919	..	..	2—355 tons
1920	..	..	2—88 tons
1921	..	..	1—66 tons.

Roads.

137. The Island is intersected by a system of water-bound macadam roads. They are divided into two classes: (a) Main Roads, of a total length of 2,242 miles, which are maintained from the General Revenue of the Colony; and (b) Parochial Roads amounting to 4,341 miles of which 1,301 miles are suitable for motor traffic and 3,040 miles which may be described as cart or bridle roads. The latter class of roads are maintained by the Parochial Boards from funds derived from local rates.

138. During the Calendar Year 1921 the Main Roads were maintained at an average cost of £105 per mile, an increase of 59% over the average cost for the previous year—due chiefly to heavier maintenance necessitated by the increase in mechanical transport.

139. With few exceptions, these roads were originally constructed of limestone, without any proper foundation and are therefore suitable only for light wheeled traffic, but this type of construction is inadequate to meet the ever-increasing motor traffic requirements of the present day.

It is proposed to introduce legislation prohibiting the importation and use of motor vehicles weighing more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons unladen. The existing roads will be gradually improved so as to enable them to carry loads of 6 tons with safety.

Canals.

140. There are no navigable canals in the Island.

Irrigation.

141. There is a system of irrigation canals which convey water from the Rio Cobre River to the plains of the parish of St. Catherine for irrigation purposes. The main canal carries 18,000 cubic yards per hour and is, approximately, 6 miles long; subsidiary channels of which there is a total length of 42 miles, convey the water over an area of 50,000 acres, of which about 20,000 acres are now under irrigation.

142. In the parish of Clarendon an irrigation scheme has been constructed. Water is pumped from the Cockpit River to a height of 70 feet and discharged into channels which convey the water by gravity to irrigate the various Sugar Estates. The main channel carries 5,000 cubic yards per hour, but is capable of being extended to carry 10,000 cubic yards per hour.

Postal, Telegraph, Telephone, and Aerial Services.

143. The Government Island Postal Telegraph system was inaugurated in 1879, with a complement of 47 Offices. At the close of the Calendar year 1921, there were 951 miles of telegraph and telephone lines, with 62 and 64 Telegraph and Telephone Offices, respectively. Further extensions of lines and the opening of new offices have been authorised for the current year.

144. The charge at the inception of the telegraph system was one shilling for the first 20 words, and threepence for every additional five words, addresses of sender and receiver not being included.

145. In 1911 the popular sixpenny telegram was introduced and remained effective until 1918, when, due to war conditions, the rate was increased to ninepence for the first twelve words or under, and half-penny for each additional word, including the address at which it still remains.

146. The Railway Telegraphs, in connection with which there are 38 Offices, assist considerably towards placing communication within the reach of all. These Offices work in collaboration with the Island Telegraph system, but are controlled by the Management of the Jamaica Government Railway.

The public avail themselves increasingly of this public utility as is evidenced by the following comparisons.

147. During the year 1909-10, with approximately, 100 Offices, 112,515 messages were signalled and in 1919-20, the number of messages had increased to 299,879, which was further increased to 341,876, during the Calendar Year 1921. The receipts in 1914-15 totalled £8,255, in 1919-20 £15,020; while during the Calendar year 1921, £18,188, was collected.

148. There are two Wireless Stations in the Island, one of which is situated at Christiana, and is owned and controlled by the Royal Navy. This Station does not communicate with Merchant Shipping but handles traffic for Trans-Atlantic points, and North America, also for British Guiana.**

The other Wireless Station is situated in Kingston and is controlled and operated by the Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd. under Government License. This station communicates with Merchant Shipping on a 600 metre wave. The Company proposes to put down a more powerful installation, which, when completed, will give a greater radius of communication than obtains at present.

149. There is at present no Aerial Service in connection with this Colony.

150. Efficient and speedy communication with all parts of the outside world is furnished by two Cable Companies, viz: the Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd. and the West India & Panama Telegraph Co., Ltd.

151. The cable of the first named Company runs from Jamaica through Turks Island to Bermuda and thence to Halifax, N.S. at which point connection is made with all the important Trans-Atlantic Lines Eastward and with the Canadian Pacific Railroad Commercial Cable Companies, and Western Union Lines Inland and Westward. This Company also connects at Halifax, N.S., with the Imperial route to Great Britain and Australia, and with the Marconi Company's Trans-Atlantic Service.

152. The West India & Panama Telegraph Co., Ltd. maintains communication with Foreign Countries by means of Cables to Cuba, where

**Ceased to operate as from 31st May, 1922.

they transfer their cablegrams to their connecting Company who have cables connecting with different parts of the United States of America. In addition, this Company has a net work of cables touching at practically every West Indian Island.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

153. No Public Works that might be considered of special interest to persons outside the Colony were carried out during the year under review.

XI.—OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

154. A list of Official Publications relating to Jamaica, which are likely to be of interest, is given below:—

	Price.	Where obtainable.
Handbook of Jamaica	8s.	Edward Stanford, 12, 13 & 14 Long Acre, London, W.C.
Jamaica in 1920	1s.	H. Sotheran & Co., Strand, London, W.C.
Annual Report of the Collector General of Internal Revenue, Customs and Excise.	1s.	Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, Kingston, Jamaica.
Annual Report of the Director of Agriculture.	1s.	do do
The Rainfall of Jamaica, 1911	2/6	Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, Kingston, Jamaica.
Itinerary of the Main Roads of the Island of Jamaica, 1908.	2s.	Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, Kingston, Jamaica.
Notes on the Geology of Jamaica	1s.	Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, Kingston, Jamaica.
Education Code	1s.	Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, Kingston, Jamaica.
Bibliographia Jamaicensis, 1902.	6d.	Messrs. H. Sotheran & Co., Strand, London, W.C.
Supplement to Bibliographia Jamaicensis, 1908	3d.	Messrs. H. Sotheran & Co., Strand, London, W.C.

H. BRYAN,

Officer Administering the Government.

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COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1107	Ashanti	1920
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920-1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921-1922
1134	Barbados	"
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	"
1137	Ceylon	"
1138	Swaziland	"
1139	Hongkong	"
1140	Straits Settlement	"
1141	St. Lucia... ..	"
1142	Ashanti	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1144.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1076.)



LONDON :

PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
to be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 87 Peter Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh.
1923.

Price 6d. Net.

No. 1144.**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND
ITS DEPENDENCIES FOR THE YEAR 1920.***

INTRODUCTION.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

The Falkland Islands consist of the East Falkland having an area estimated at 3,000 square miles, the West Falkland about 2,300 square miles, and about 100 small islands, the total area being approximately 6,300 square miles. The group lies in the South Atlantic Ocean between 51° and 53° S. latitude and between 57° and 62° W. longitude, about 480 miles north-east of Cape Horn, and about 1,000 miles due south of Monte Video.

The Dependencies consist of the following groups of islands : South Georgia, the South Orkneys, the South Shetlands, and the South Sandwich Islands, and Graham's Land, situated in the South Atlantic to the south of the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and lying between the twentieth and the eightieth degrees of west longitude. The total area of land and sea included in the Dependencies amounts to more than three million square miles.

South Georgia, the principal island in the Dependencies, lies in latitude $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ S. and longitude 36° to 38° W. It has an area of about 1,000 square miles.

DESCRIPTIVE.*Falkland Islands.*

The Falkland Islands in general physical appearance consist of bleak rolling moorland interspersed with outbreaks of grey rock and stone runs. They bear a marked resemblance to some parts of the north-west coast of Scotland and to the Shetland Islands. In some parts of the coast high rock cliffs can be seen, but the country can hardly be described as mountainous, the highest peak, Mount Adam on the West Falkland, rising to only 2,315 ft. above sea-level. Trees are completely absent.

The soil is chiefly soft peat and travelling is difficult. There are no roads outside the capital. This is in some measure due to the plenitude of excellent harbours. It is doubtful whether any country in the world is so well served in this respect.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 872 [Cd. 7622-63].

The islands are so well adapted for sheep-farming that the entire acreage has been devoted to that industry. The whole country is divided up into a number of farms, containing from 6,000 to, in one case, 600,000 acres, the freeholds of which have been, or are in process of being, purchased from the Crown. Each of such farms, or sections of land, has its headquarters consisting of the Manager's house, cookhouse, wool-sheds, pens, etc., at a settlement situated on the coast at a point convenient for the shipment of produce to the capital.

The only town is Stanley, the capital, in the north-east corner of the group.

The Dependencies.

The island of South Georgia is a mass of high mountains, covered with snow where not too precipitous, while the valleys between are filled with glaciers which in many cases descend to the sea. The coastal region is free from snow in summer and more or less clothed with vegetation. Land whaling stations have been established in some of the numerous bays. There is a permanent resident population engaged in the whaling industry. The Resident Magistrate and other officials are stationed at Grytviken Harbour.

The remaining Dependencies are even more inhospitable, being nearly completely covered with snow and ice and almost entirely destitute of plant life. The chief harbour is Port Foster at Deception Island in the South Shetlands. These Dependencies are, however, ice-free for some four or five months in the year only.

Constitution.

The Government of the Colony of the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies is administered by a Governor aided by an Executive Council composed of three official and one unofficial member, and a Legislative Council composed of three official and two unofficial members. The unofficial members of the Councils are appointed by warrant under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet for a term not exceeding five years.

HISTORICAL.

The early history of the Falkland Islands is shrouded in uncertainty. The group is said to have been visited by Davis in 1592 and Hawkins in 1594. In 1690 Captain Strong sailed between the East and West Falklands and gave the name of Falkland's Sound to the Channel; it is probable that the islands came to receive their title from this survey. They were, however, known, and are known, to the French as the Isles Malouines and to the Spaniards as Islas Malvinas, from visits paid to the group

in the 18th century by vessels from St. Malo. In 1764 they were taken possession of by France, and Bougainville planted a small colony at Port Louis. Two years later France admitted Spain's prior claim to territory in this region and ceded her rights. In 1767 England asserted her dominion over the islands, and a post was established in the West Falkland with the object of surveying the group. This was driven out by the Spaniards in 1770 and restored in the following year, after threat of war, and without prejudice. The post was, however, abandoned in 1774, and there was no further formal occupation until 1820, when the "United Provinces of South America" hoisted their flag at Port Louis. This settlement was broken up in 1831 by an American warship owing to the illegal imprisonment by a German, who was in charge of the settlement, of some American sealers, and the German was deported. In the following year the British flag was restored, and there has been no change of ownership of any part of the group since. From 1833 to 1842 continuous Admiralty surveys were made round the coast-line, the naval officers in charge being appointed as residents. On the 23rd of June, 1843, a Charter under the Great Seal was issued defining the constitution of the Colony and its Dependencies, Richard Clement Moody (afterwards General Moody) being the first Governor.

The regions in which the Dependencies lie were visited by a number of navigators in the 16th, 17th and early part of the 18th centuries, usually involuntarily, in endeavours to round Cape Horn or pass through the Straits of Magellan. Captain Cook sighted and took possession of South Georgia and the Sandwich group for Great Britain in 1775. The large number of whales was especially reported upon. Mr. William Smith in the snow "Williams" of Blyth took possession of the South Shetlands in 1819. The South Orkneys were annexed by Captain George Powell in 1821. Mr. Edward Bransfield, R.N., under whom Mr. William Smith sailed in 1819-1820, discovered the first part of Graham's Land, and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832.

Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers were met there in 1819. The fur seal industry achieved such large proportions that no fewer than 91 vessels visited these islands in the two seasons 1820-21 and 1821-22. They are said to have practically exterminated the fur seal, so recklessly did they work and wantonly slaughter. James Weddell stated that in 1822-24 these animals were almost extinct.

In 1904 an Argentine Company was formed on the initiative of a Norwegian whaling captain to carry on whaling at South Georgia. The development of the industry from that date has been rapid, and the whaling field has been in recent years more productive than all those in the rest of the world combined.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Falkland Islands are inhabited almost exclusively by people of pure British descent. It is the descendants of the enterprising of the early pioneers who now own the greater part of the land. The Colony is entirely dependent on the primary industry; the farms were established and have been maintained with but little Government assistance or intervention. There has been little or no co-operation among the farmers, and of the scientific side of farming. It is therefore not remarkable that progress has been very slow, despite the efforts of individuals. The total number of sheep in the country was 667,677. As many as 800,000 have been carried, which was probably overstocking as the pasturage is poor. One of the chief problems is the disposal of the surplus sheep. Neither of the two canning factories was working in 1920.

The inhabitants generally are hard-working, thrifty, and peaceable. Lack of local educational facilities has perhaps been one of the causes of the absence of progress. Except for a temporary wave of prosperity caused by the comparatively high prices paid for wool during the War, a hard struggle for existence has been carried on. It can scarcely be said that the measure of prosperity materially benefited the general population.

The population at the 31st of December, 1920, was 2,271, viz., 1,285 males and 986 females. The birth-rate was 21.5 and the death-rate 9.5. The general health was good, and there is no doubt as to the salubrity of the climate.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Falkland Islands, are inhabited almost exclusively and utilized mainly by the Norwegians. The Norwegians were first in the field, and credit must be given to them for their initiative and energy. In 1920 eleven Norwegian companies, two British, and one Argentine were engaged in the whaling industry; the personnel of the factories and whale-catchers was almost entirely foreign.

The workers have shown themselves generally loyal, but there were the makings of a serious disturbance in the Falkland Islands in 1920. The whole of the labour engaged at a land station on South Georgia went out on strike with the exception of three men who were instigated by thirty-six Russian Bolsheviks. They made most extravagant demands, including one for the resignation of the three objectors. The number called out was small, but their demeanour was threatening, and there was only one man at the command of the civil authorities. On the 16th of January was the time and date of the expiry of the ultimatum issued by the strikers. At that hour one of Majesty's cruisers, which was not known to be in the Harbour, steamed into the Harbour. The strike came to a termination.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Falkland Islands are inhabited almost exclusively by people of pure British descent. It is the descendants of the most enterprising of the early pioneers who now own the greater part of the land. The Colony is entirely dependent on the sheep industry; the farms were established and have been maintained with but little Government assistance or intervention. There has been little or no co-operation among the farmers, or study of the scientific side of farming. It is therefore not remarkable that progress has been very slow, despite the efforts of one or two individuals. The total number of sheep in the country in 1920 was 667,677. As many as 800,000 have been carried, but this was probably overstocking as the pasturage is poor. One of the chief problems is the disposal of the surplus sheep. Neither of the two canning factories was working in 1920.

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The population at the 31st of December, 1920, was estimated at 2,271, viz., 1,285 males and 986 females. The birth-rate was 21·5 and the death-rate 9·5. The general health was good and there is no doubt as to the salubrity of the climate.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are inhabited almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners. The Norwegians were first in the field, and credit must be given to them for their initiative and energy. In 1920 eleven Norwegian companies, two British, and one Argentine were engaged in the industry; the personnel of the factories and whale-catchers was almost entirely foreign.

The workers have shown themselves generally law-abiding, but there were the makings of a serious disturbance in January of 1920. The whole of the labour engaged at a land factory at South Georgia went out on strike with the exception of three men; they were instigated by thirty-six Russian Bolsheviks and they made most extravagant demands, including one for the deportation of the three objectors. The number called out was 220, their demeanour was threatening, and there was only one policeman at the command of the civil authorities. 4.0 p.m. on the 16th of January was the time and date of the expiry of the ultimatum issued by the strikers. At that hour one of His Majesty's cruisers, which was not known to be in the vicinity, steamed into the Harbour. The strike came to an abrupt termination.

The population of South Georgia in December, 1920, was 997 men and 3 women.

The only event of outstanding importance during the year was the publication in April of the Report of the Colonial Office Inter-departmental Committee on Research and Development in the Dependencies of the Falkland Islands. It is difficult to over-estimate the value of this Report to anyone interested in the Whaling Industry or the scientific problems of the development of polar regions. The Committee recommended, *inter alia*, that two special research vessels should be equipped for scientific (biological, hydrographical, geological, meteorological) investigations on lines laid down. It was proposed that part, at all events, of the cost, estimated at £85,000, initial expenditure, and £25,000 to £30,000 for maintenance, should be raised by a special export duty on whale and seal oil.

II.—FINANCIAL

(a) REVENUE.

The revenue for the year amounted to the sum of £71,558, including the sums received in respect of Land Sales. The total ordinary revenue was £64,166, an increase of £15,670 over the receipts for 1919 and £10,591 in excess of the expenditure. Of the total ordinary revenue, £35,498 was derived from the Colony and £28,688 from the Dependencies.

The following table is a comparative statement of the revenue for the years 1910, 1919 and 1920 :—

Head of Revenue.	1910.	1919.	1920.
Customs	£ 5,416	13,556	26,590
Port Dues	291	477	835
Internal Revenue	2,671	11,822	12,246
Fees, Fines, etc.	760	2,301	1,549
Interest	4,801	12,368	15,626
Post Office	1,458	4,007	3,345
Rents	2,949	3,221	3,624
Miscellaneous	188	744	350
Total Ordinary Revenue ..	£18,534	£48,496	£64,165
Land Sales	7,238	8,186	7,392
Live Stock	807	—	—
Totals	£26,579	£56,682	£71,557

The net increase in the revenue over 1919 is attributable to successive increases in the duty on whale and seal oil. The duty stood originally at 3½d. a barrel; this was raised to 1s. 6d. in 1919 and 5s. 0d. in 1920. The additional duty was imposed mainly for the benefit of the whaling industry, the proceeds being earmarked for a Research and Development Fund for the Dependencies.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1920.

(b) EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £53,575, £33,320 was for the Colony and £20,255 for the Dependencies. The latter sum includes, however, £12,344 charged in 1919 as a credit to the Research Fund.

The following is a comparative statement of the total ordinary and Public Works Extraordinary Expenditure in the years 1919 and 1920 :—

	1910.	1919.
Ordinary Expenditure	£ 16,827	£ 26,333
Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,371	577

The increase in the expenditure in 1920 is mainly attributable to the increases in salaries and pensions granted during the year.

(c) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The balance of assets over liabilities at the end of the year amounted to £230,956.

The principal items were :—

Land Sales Account	£159,398
Surplus Balances	69,288

(d) CURRENCY.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and 5s. £5 notes issued by the Falkland Islands Government. The currency note issue was increased during the year from £20,000.

The income derived from the securities held by the Commissioners during 1920 was £726, as against an income of £135.

(e) BANKING.

There are no banking facilities in the Colony with the exception of those offered by the Government Savings Bank, instituted in 1888. The financial year of the Savings Bank is from the 1st of October to the 30th of September.

On the 1st of October, 1920, the sum of £128,386 stood to the credit of the 806 depositors in this Bank. The average balance account was £159, or nearly £57 per head of the population.

The withdrawals during the year amounted to £29,481.

The rate of interest paid on deposits in the Savings Bank was 2½ per cent.

(b) EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £53,575, of which £33,320 was for the Colony and £20,255 for the Dependencies. The latter sum includes, however, £12,344 charged in respect of a credit to the Research Fund.

The following is a comparative statement of the total ordinary and Public Works Extraordinary Expenditure in the years 1910, 1919 and 1920 :—

	1910.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Ordinary Expenditure	16,827	26,333	34,392
Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,371	577	829

The increase in the expenditure in 1920 is mainly attributable to the increases in salaries and pensions granted during the year.

(c) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The balance of assets over liabilities at the end of 1920 amounted to £230,956.

The principal items were :—

Land Sales Account.. ..	£159,395
Surplus Balances	69,280

(d) CURRENCY.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and 5s., £1, and £5 notes issued by the Falkland Islands Government. The currency note issue was increased during the year from £18,000 to £20,000.

The income derived from the securities held by the Commissioners during 1920 was £726, as against an expenditure of £135.

(e) BANKING.

There are no banking facilities in the Colony with the exception of those offered by the Government Savings Bank, which was instituted in 1888. The financial year of the Savings Bank is from the 1st of October to the 30th of September.

On the 1st of October, 1920, the sum of £128,386 stood to the credit of the 806 depositors in this Bank. The average for each account was £159, or nearly £57 per head of the population.

The withdrawals during the year amounted to £20,600 and the deposits to £29,481.

The rate of interest paid on deposits in the Savings Bank is 2½ per cent.

III.—TRADE, INDUSTRIES AND SHIPPING.

IMPORTS.

The total value of imports into the Colony and its Dependencies during 1920 was £916,769. Of this, £210,002 represented the share of the Colony and £706,767 the Dependencies.

The following table shows the value of the imports for the years 1910, 1919 and 1920. Separate figures for the Colony and the Dependencies were not kept prior to 1918:—

	1910. Colony and Dependencies.	1919. Colony. Depend.	1920. Colony. Depend.
Food, drink and tobacco..	£30,102	£45,303	£81,010
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	18,030	21,584	662,462
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	42,814	94,029	113,267
Live stock ..	2,848	3,626	—
Bullion and specie ..	500	1,000	—
Total ..	£94,294	165,542	856,739
			210,002 706,767

The principal articles imported into the Colony and its Dependencies during 1920 were the following:—

	Value. £		Value. £
Groceries ..	138,315	Hardware, machinery ..	64,776
Corn and fodder ..	6,875	Drapery, fancy goods ..	22,230
Tobacco ..	8,139	Paints and oils ..	21,058
Coal and coke ..	443,528	Ships, fittings ..	13,843
Empty barrels ..	14,245	Wearing apparel ..	28,697
Timber ..	46,456	Wire fencing materials..	4,308
Canvas, rope, etc. ..	19,288	Live stock ..	12,251
Boots, shoes, saddlery ..	11,421		

The country of origin of the imports is shown below:—

United Kingdom ..	583,592
East Africa ..	101
New South Wales ..	36,234
South Africa ..	54,826

Total from British Empire.. £674,753

Argentina ..	61,744
Brazil ..	20
Chile ..	4,580
Holland ..	23,785
Norway ..	59,940
United States ..	60,887
Uruguay ..	31,060

Total from Foreign Countries .. £242,016

It should be noted in connection with the imports of Dependencies that the figures given relate only to South Falkland. The whaling factories which operated in the other Dependencies carried their supplies for the whaling season on board, and there was no resident population in these places.

There are no import duties except on wine, malt, spirits and tobacco.

The annual value of malt liquors and spirits imported into Falkland Islands has been as shown in the following table:

	1910. Gallons.	Value. £	1919. Gallons.	Value. £
Spirits ..	2,490	1,691	1,370	6,247
Malt liquors ..	2,781	1,022	3,886	4,064
Totals ..	5,271	£2,713	5,256	£10,311
Revenue received ..		£2,346		£3,189

EXPORTS.

The total exports were valued at the port of shipment at £3,132,909. Produce to the value of £363,998 was shipped from the Colony and £2,768,911 from the Dependencies. The following is a comparative table:—

Article.	1910. Value. £	1919. Value. £
Falkland Islands—		
Wool .. lb.	4,828,109	161,666
Tallow .. lb.	481,173	8,439
Sheepskins .. No.	—	515,200
Tinned meat .. Cases.	33,198	100,884
Dependencies—		
Whale oil .. Tons.	6,433	11,705
Whale bone .. Tons.	51	43,921
Whale guano .. Bags.	—	60
		25,946

The value for the five years from 1916 to 1920 of imports from and exports to the chief countries with which trade is carried on are shown below:—

	United Kingdom—	Imports from	Exports to
1916	..	£408,957	£1,900,000
1917	..	681,803	1,700,000
1918	..	487,787	1,700,000
1919	..	554,178	1,800,000
1920	..	503,592	2,000,000
South Africa—			
1916	..	4,631	2,900,000
1917	..	89,068	2,900,000
1918	..	94,964	2,900,000
1919	..	168,363	2,900,000
1920	..	54,826	2,900,000

It should be noted in connection with the imports to the Dependencies that the figures given relate only to South Georgia. The whaling factories which operated in the other Dependencies carried their supplies for the whaling season on board, there being no resident population in these places.

There are no import duties except on wine, malt liquors, spirits and tobacco.

The annual value of malt liquors and spirits imported into the Falkland Islands has been as shown in the following table :—

		1910.		1919.		1920.	
		Gallons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
Spirits	..	2,490	£1,691	1,370	£6,247	1,825	£5,730
Malt liquors	..	2,781	1,022	3,886	4,064	3,200	4,638
Totals	..	5,271	£2,713	5,256	£10,311	5,025	£10,368
Revenue received..			£2,346		£3,189		£2,765

EXPORTS.

The total exports were valued at the port of shipment at £3,132,909. Produce to the value of £363,998 was shipped from the Colony and £2,768,911 from the Dependencies.

The following is a comparative table :—

Article.		1910.		1919.		1920.	
		lb.	Value.	lb.	Value.	lb.	Value.
Falkland Islands—							
Wool	..	4,828,109	161,666	4,867,200	283,884	4,510,607	269,170
Tallow	..	481,173	8,439	515,200	18,004	535,360	21,798
Sheepskins	—	—	—	100,884	36,055	86,447	36,200
Tinned meat							
	Cases.	33,198	4,138	11,705	55,053	4,794	23,127
Dependencies—							
Whale oil	Tons.	6,433	120,995	43,921	1,725,444	41,892	2,748,852
Whale bone		51	2,280	60	4,580	55	1,730
Whale guano	Bags.	—	—	25,946	13,054	18,579	17,273

The value for the five years from 1916 to 1920 of the imports from and exports to the chief countries with which trade has been carried on are shown below :—

				Imports from	Exports to
United Kingdom—				£	£
1916	..	..	..	408,957	1,962,794
1917	..	..	..	681,803	1,777,487
1918	..	..	..	487,787	1,891,409
1919	..	..	..	554,178	2,035,878
1920	..	..	..	503,592	2,978,001
South Africa—					
1916	..	..	..	4,631	20
1917	..	..	..	89,068	—
1918	..	..	..	94,964	350
1919	..	..	..	168,363	137,475
1920	..	..	..	54,826	75,471

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1144.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1076.)



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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1144.

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REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1076.)



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				Imports from		Exports to
Argentina—				£		£
1916	78,675	..	89,617
1917	328,647	..	92,219
1918	222,144	..	162,326
1919	..	..	..	55,894	..	—
1920	..	..	..	61,774	..	78,947
				Imports only.		
Norway—				£		
1916	..	..	..	..	..	67,038
1917	..	..	..	..	..	96,643
1918	..	..	..	..	..	6,596
1919	..	..	..	..	..	15,258
1920	..	..	..	..	..	59,940
United States of America—						
1916	..	..	..	..	..	35
1917	..	..	..	..	..	40,278
1918	..	..	..	..	..	77,024
1919	..	..	..	..	..	187,396
1920	..	..	..	..	..	60,887
Uruguay—						
1916	..	..	..	..	..	4,627
1917	..	..	..	..	..	16,602
1918	..	..	..	..	..	42,191
1919	..	..	..	..	..	34,293
1920	..	..	..	..	..	31,060

INDUSTRIES.

As has been indicated in previous paragraphs in this Report, there are really only two industries of any serious importance in the territory under the Falkland Islands Government, namely, sheep-farming in the Colony and whaling in the Dependencies.

It cannot be said that there has been any development in the sheep industry. In 1900 there were 778,026 sheep in the Colony. The clip was 4,600,000 lb. The price was poor, £83,333 only resulting. This was probably due to the disturbed state of the market. In 1904 there were 702,444 sheep ; 4,023,807 lb. of wool produced £115,359. In 1913 the number of sheep was 702,859, and £158,442 was the value of 4,820,552 lb. of wool. Owing to war prices approximately the same amount of wool realized £283,884 in 1920.

The methods of farming are said to be far behind those prevailing in South America. It would be unjust to blame the farmers for this. The poverty of the soil, the isolation of the Colony, the intemperance of the climate, and the lack of capital have made the struggle to progress difficult.

The breed of sheep is a cross-bred Romney. There were in 1906 only two pure-bred flocks in the Islands, one Romney Marsh, the other Lincolns. The imports of stock between 1902 and 1912 give a fair indication of the cross—584 Romney Marsh rams, 75 Border Leicester rams, 35 Lincoln rams, 69 Merino rams.

The profits made by the farmers in the Colony were greatly restricted owing to the high freight rates both of getting their produce into Stanley and of shipping it home. There is no land transport, and the wool freights averaged £7 12s. 6d. per ton weight to Stanley, and £11 from Stanley to the United Kingdom.

There has been no agricultural development of the Colony. A small quantity of oats and potatoes was grown during 1920. It is estimated that 160 acres only were under cultivation.

The whaling industry, on the other hand, has gone on by leaps and bounds. It may be said to have been established in 1904, but there is no separate mention of it in Annual Reports until 1907, when an optimistic note was struck by the statement, "The present satisfactory state of the finances of the Colony is to be attributed, in a measure, to the establishment of the whaling industry." The satisfaction was based on an additional revenue of £921. The first mention of oil exports is in the Report for 1908, where it is stated that 2,400 tons had been exported, of the value of £18,720. The quantity exported in 1920 was 41,276 tons, valued at £2,748,852. The duty levied was £10,038.

As has already been mentioned, this industry is mainly in foreign hands. There were in 1920 eight leases of land sites for whaling purposes in South Georgia; in addition to this there were some twenty floating factories and sixty whale-catchers allowed for the Dependencies as a whole. The whale-catchers are small steam vessels which roam and rove to kill the whales and bring them in to the mother ship or land station. Two British firms operate, but the personnel is chiefly Norwegian.

The Report of the Inter-departmental Committee on the Development of the Dependencies emphasized the imperative necessity of restricting operations pending investigations, and it was not found possible to extend facilities to fresh applicants for whaling licences pending the result of investigations.

There is at present no fur seal industry in the Dependencies. The only company which has a licence for taking seals killed 1,527 sea elephants and 18 sea leopards in South Georgia in 1920; 2,269 barrels of oil, valued at £11,345, were obtained.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered the Colony during the year was 47, with a tonnage of 64,109. Of these, 10, with a tonnage of 40,389, were British. The corresponding figures for South Georgia, which has the only port of entry in the Dependencies, were 31 and 15 respectively, with a total tonnage of 33,967, of which 22,081 was British.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered the Colony and the Dependencies during 1920 :—

	British.		Foreign.	
	Steamships.	Tonnage.	Steamships.	Tonnage.
Falkland Islands ..	10	40,389	37	23,720
South Georgia ..	15	22,081	16	11,886

An industry which was a standing feature of former annual reports has practically gone by the board owing to the opening of the Panama Canal. A long list of damaged vessels used to be shown as having put into Stanley for repairs. The shipping casualties are now happily few and far between. The Colony could afford to give up an industry of which it failed to take proper advantage.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There is no secondary education in the Colony. Elementary education is compulsory in Stanley, where there are two schools, one conducted by the Government and the second under Roman Catholic management. The number of pupils on the roll in 1920 was 116 in the former and 63 in the latter. The children in the country districts are taught by travelling teachers, of whom five are provided by the Government and two by the Falkland Islands Company, which also retains a resident teacher at the head station at Darwin.

During the War it was found difficult to obtain travelling teachers, with the result that the majority of the children received no education. At best the system only permits of giving a few weeks' teaching in the year to the 250 children of school age in the widely scattered settlements and shepherds' huts.

V.—CLIMATE.

The climate is rigorous, but very healthy except to those disposed to pulmonary affections. There are constant high winds in the daytime between September and May, which are trying to those engaged in outdoor pursuits. The rainfall was 29.48 in. in 1920 as against 30.29 in. in 1919. Rain fell on 250 days. The temperature seldom falls below 30° or rises above 60°. There are periodical blizzards, but they are seldom of great force. If they occur during the lambing season, October and November, serious losses occur to the farmers.

The rainfall in South Georgia was 48.792 in. in 1920. The number of days on which rain fell was 212. The mean wind force was 2.33. Despite the heavier rainfall the climate is drier than that of the Falklands. The temperature varies between about 23° and 60°. The mean for June, the coldest month, was 28.90°.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The Colony was badly served for external communication during 1920. Nominally there is a monthly mail service but this was suspended during the War. Owing to the opening of the Panama Canal there is no direct homeward service proceeding to the United Kingdom via the west coast of America.

There is a wireless service with Monte Video, when
are cabled. The cost per word is 3s. 9½d. for messages
ten words.

Internally the population is dependent for freight transport. Roads there are none. Travelling is by

A small wireless station in the West Falkland communication with Stanley.

There was no wireless station in the Dependencies. Communication was occasionally established with ship installations.

VII.—DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES

During 1920 attention was again drawn to the new developing the resources of the country. Of these known, pasturage, peat, penguin and seal oil; fisheries and guano; and conceived as possibilities, the of trees and the discovery of payable minerals and reefs. A forest officer and a geologist were appointed; they the Colony in December. There is no doubt that it a great boon if trees could be grown for shelter, and no afford to allow the possibility of geological resources undiscovered.

H. HENNIKER-HEAT
Colonial

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.
23rd September, 1922.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The Colony was badly served for external communications during 1920. Nominally there is a monthly mail service, but this was suspended during the War. Owing to the opening of the Panama Canal there is no direct homeward service, steamers proceeding to the United Kingdom via the west coast of South America.

There is a wireless service with Monte Video, whence messages are cabled. The cost per word is 3s. 9½d. for messages of over ten words.

Internally the population is dependent for freight on water transport. Roads there are none. Travelling is by horseback.

A small wireless station in the West Falkland maintained communication with Stanley.

There was no wireless station in the Dependencies, but communication was occasionally established with ships carrying installations.

VII.—DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES.

During 1920 attention was again drawn to the necessity for developing the resources of the country. Of these there were known, pasturage, peat, penguin and seal oil; suspected, fisheries and guano; and conceived as possibilities, the growing of trees and the discovery of payable minerals and mineral oils. A forest officer and a geologist were appointed; they arrived in the Colony in December. There is no doubt that it would be a great boon if trees could be grown for shelter, and no country can afford to allow the possibility of geological resources to remain undiscovered.

H. HENNIKER-HEATON,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

23rd September, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.							
No.	Colony, etc.						Year.
1109	British Guiana						1920
1110	British Honduras						
1111	Malta						1920-1921
1112	Uganda						1920
1113	Leeward Islands						1920-1921
1114	Nigeria						1921
1115	Mauritius						1920
1116	Jamaica						1921
1117	Cyprus						"
1118	Weihaiwei						"
1119	Gold Coast						1920
1120	Gambia						"
1121	Gambia						1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate						1920-1921
1123	British Guiana						1921
1124	Grenada						"
1125	Zanzibar						"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast						"
1127	Gibraltar						"
1128	St. Vincent						"
1129	St. Helena						"
1130	Fiji						"
1131	Basutoland						1921-1922
1132	Bermuda						1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate						1921-1922
1134	Barbados						"
1135	Trinidad						1921
1136	British Honduras						"
1137	Ceylon						"
1138	Swaziland						"
1139	Hongkong						"
1140	Straits Settlements						"
1141	St. Lucia						"
1142	Ashanti						"
1143	Jamaica						"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria				Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies				Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria				Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria				Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon				Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute				Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria				Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent				Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate				Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General				Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island				Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1145.

BAHAMAS.

REPORT FOR 1921-22

(For Report for 1920-21 see No. 1095.)



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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL. .

57

No. 1145.

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REPORT FOR 1921-22.

(For Report for 1920-21 see No. 1095.)



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1922.

Price 9d. Net.

No. 1145.

BAHAMAS.

* REPORT BY THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY OF THE BAHAMAS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1922.

Note.—The figures dealing with finance are for the year ended 31st March, 1922, with Trade and Customs for the year ended 31st December, 1921 (as desired by the Board of Trade).

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue was £470,987, as compared with £254,019 in 1920–21, an increase of £216,968.

The increase in Customs revenue, as shown in the following statement, was due to increased importations of all goods, but chiefly liquors.

The following statement gives the Customs receipts for three years :—

	£
1919–20	165,504
1920–21	219,203
1921–22	426,809

The expenditure was £267,402, as against £220,813 in 1920–21, an increase of £46,589.

The following table gives the revenue and expenditure for the past three years :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	
	£	£	£
1919–20	204,296	108,939	+ 95,357
1920–21	254,019	220,813	+ 33,206
1921–22	470,987	267,402	+203,585

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st March, 1922, was £302,115, and on 31st March, 1921 was £40,568.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 849 [Cd. 7622-10].

BAHAMAS, 1921–22.

DEBT.

The Public Debt bearing interest at 4, 4½, 5 and 5½ was originally £173,126, and now stands at £27,325.

The annual charge on account of interest and sink is about £9,000.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

The current coins are British silver and copper and little gold.

United States gold and silver certificates are not legal tender but are accepted if of \$5 and upwards at the same rate as United States gold.

British currency notes of the £1 and 10s. denomination are also in circulation.

Local deposits in the Royal Bank of Canada amounted to £742,709 on 31st March, 1922.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS.

The total value of imports during the year, including transit, was £1,095,999, as against £1,090,217 in 1920, showing an increase of £5,782.

The following statement shows the nature and value of the Imports for the last five years, grouped under the principal Trade classifications.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£
<i>Class 1.</i>				
Foodstuffs ..	248,024	188,953	238,283	329,913
Malt ..	1,155	530	1,321	6,126
Spirits ..	7,593	6,370	43,143	272,970
Wines ..	2,654	867	2,220	18,004
Tobacco, including cigars and cigarettes ..	8,735	11,698	9,679	18,717
Live Stock ..	145	28	—	146
Total Class 1.	£268,306	£208,446	£294,646	£645,876
<i>Class 2—Raw Materials</i>	14,303	10,389	23,259	28,074
<i>Class 3—Manufactured Articles</i>	200,975	148,345	221,337	407,626
Specie ..	10,000	—	—	8,641
Total ..	£493,584	£367,180	£539,242	£1,090,217

(8327) Wt. 23233 1220 625 1 23 Harrow G. 75'2.

DEBT.

The Public Debt bearing interest at 4, 4½, 5 and 5½ per cent. was originally £173,126, and now stands at £27,325.

The annual charge on account of interest and sinking fund is about £9,000.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

The current coins are British silver and copper and a very little gold.

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II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

The total value of imports during the year, including coin, was £1,095,999, as against £1,090,217 in 1920, showing an increase over last year of £5,782.

The following statement shows the nature and the value of the Imports for the last five years, grouped under the Board of Trade classifications.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Class 1.</i>					
Foodstuffs ..	248,024	188,953	238,283	329,913	197,072
Malt	1,155	530	1,321	6,126	8,299
Spirits	7,593	6,370	43,143	272,970	478,896
Wines	2,654	867	2,220	18,004	20,459
Tobacco, including cigars and cigarettes ..	8,735	11,698	9,679	18,717	15,624
Live Stock ..	145	28	—	146	188
Total Class 1.	£268,306	£208,446	£294,646	£645,876	£720,538
<i>Class 2—</i>					
Raw Materials	14,303	10,389	23,259	28,074	20,127
<i>Class 3—</i>					
Manufactured Articles	200,975	148,345	221,337	407,626	329,834
Specie	10,000	—	—	8,641	25,500
Total ..	£493,584	£367,180	£539,242	£1,090,217	£1,095,999

The share of the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Foreign Countries in the Import trade for each of the five years was :—

Countries.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
United Kingdom ..	42,857	19,575	34,179	228,649	408,745
Canada	2,848	6,206	20,328	49,570	32,141
Jamaica	—	—	—	39,832	26,492
Other British Possessions ..	28,020	38,046	45,764	4,100	1,038
Total, British Empire	73,725	63,827	100,271	322,151	468,416
America	415,751	299,833	435,922	744,096	610,128
Cuba	—	—	—	16,652	2,076
France	—	—	—	3,340	11,258
Holland	930	271	206	3,304	2,062
Other Countries ..	3,178	3,249	2,843	674	2,059
Total, All Countries	493,584	367,180	539,242	1,090,217	1,095,999

Of the total imports *ad valorem* duties were paid on goods to the value of £254,009, or 24 per cent., specific duties on goods valued at £696,989, or 63 per cent. ; and goods to the value of £145,001, or 13 per cent. were admitted free of duties.

EXPORTS.

The following table shows the direction of the export trade for the last five years :—

Countries.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
United Kingdom ..	47,796	17,378	63,221	39,741	34,809
Bermuda	—	—	100	6,146	26,418
Canada	11,554	4,614	3,219	10,009	50,937
Jamaica	—	2,199	2,421	1,684	2,030
Other British Possessions ..	1,117	—	112	—	108
Total, British Empire	60,467	24,191	69,073	57,580	114,302
Belgium	—	—	878	1,364	3,361
Cuba	4,619	5,649	437	4,946	42,468
France	41,134	15,620	33,164	30,143	19,687
Germany	—	—	—	3,491	3,411
Holland	1,827	—	29,671	13,240	23,897
Mexico	—	72	—	—	34,322
Miquelon	—	—	—	—	25,000
America	290,450	230,049	243,320	186,216	109,709
Other Countries ..	1,655	2,590	5,687	3,427	2,013
Total	400,152	278,171	382,230	300,407	378,170

(1) Exports to the Mother Country decreased in value to the extent of £4,932, due to reduced shipments of sponges and tortoise-shell.

(2) Bermuda :—Unclassified goods were exported to the value of £26,418.

(3) Exports to Canada showed an increase of £40,928, the chief exports were Pineapples, £276 ; Sponges, £356 ; and Unclassified goods, £50,305.

(4) Jamaica :—Exports to this Colony showed an increase of £346 ; chief exports, Salt, £796 ; Woods, £1,006.

(5) Other British Possessions :—Unclassified goods were exported as follows :—British Honduras, £90 ; Turks Island, £18.

I. Exports to Belgium showed an increase of £1,997 ; chief export, Sponge, £3,357.

II. Exports to Cuba showed an increase of £37,522 ; chief export, Lumber, £38,183.

III. Exports to France showed a decrease of £10,456 ; chief export, Sponge, £19,647.

IV. Germany :—Exports to this country showed a decrease of £80 ; chief export, Sponge, £3,411.

V. Exports to Holland showed an increase of £10,657 ; only export, Sponge, £23,897.

VI. Mexico :—Unclassified goods to the value of £34,322 were exported to this country.

VII. Miquelon :—Unclassified goods to the value of £25,000 were exported to Miquelon.

VIII. Exports to the United States of America amounted to £109,709, or 29 per cent. of the total exports, a decrease of £75,607. The chief products shipped were—Beche de Mer, £1,897 ; Pineapples, £2,530 ; Tomatoes, £18,282 ; Bark, £3,389 ; Sponge, £39,598 ; Bahamas Hemp, £2,242.

IX. Other countries :—Shipments of Sponge were made to Argentine Republic, £64 ; Denmark, £42 ; Italy, £611 ; Japan, £799 ; Spain, £473.

The following table gives the total aggregate trade of the Colony for the seven years 1915-1921 :

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1915	363,410	243,431	601,684
1916	475,067	332,679	807,746
1917	493,584	442,447	896,061
1918	367,180	278,171	645,351
1919	539,242	382,140	921,382
1920	1,090,217	300,407	1,390,624
1921	1,095,939	378,170	1,474,169

The nationality, number, description, and tonnage of vessels entering and clearing during the year 1920 were as follows :—

Vessels Entered.

Nationality	No.	Tons.
British : Sails	206	21,447
Steam	240	90,351
Argentinian : Sails	1	270
Cuban : Sails	1	303
Danish : Steam	1	1,282
Honduranian : Steam	27	2,186
Norwegian : Steam	10	10,932
Spanish : Steam	1	72
American : Sails	88	6,935
Steam	786	192,091
Total	1,361	325,869

Vessels Cleared.

Nationality.	No.	Tons.
British : Sails	183	18,801
Steam	265	190,743
American : Sails	120	7,455
Steam	1,835	192,501
Danish : Steam	1	1,282
Honduranian : Steam	25	1,997
Norwegian : Steam	10	10,932
Spanish : Steam	1	72
Total	1,340	323,783

AGRICULTURE.

Extracts from the Report of the Board of Agriculture are sub-joined :—

“The infrequent and scanty rainfall during the year under review made farming operations more than usually difficult and uncertain, especially is this true of the tomato crop and other winter vegetables. September is the time for sowing seed, and, instead of the usual rains, we had a month's drought, and consequently the seed failed to germinate and operations were delayed a month.

“Here and there we had a local shower, and a few of the planters were fortunate in securing seedlings. These fortunate ones were able to market tomatoes in early November and

December and secure fancy prices, and were able to show a substantial balance on the right side. The large majority, however, were delayed in getting their fields planted out until October and November, and the crop coming along in February and March, met keen competition in the foreign market and sales realized were not so satisfactory.

"Most of the growers on the Out Islands were operating with advances made by American commission men. The system prevailing in the Out Island tomato district of accepting advances from commission men and pledging crops is certainly not an ideal arrangement. The best results cannot be expected under such conditions.

"Some excellent fruit, nicely graded and packed, was shipped from Nassau, and the returns from these were highly satisfactory ; one shipment of 300 crates in December netted the shipper 19s. per crate.

"Transportation from Nassau to United States was all that could be desired, one or two shipments from the Eleuthera district missed the steamer they were intended for, but the delay was not as serious as in other years, the whole crop being moved successfully and in good condition.

"About 1,000 cases were canned by the J. S. Johnson Company valued at about £400. The fruit was obtained from their own plantation and would otherwise have been allowed to rot in the fields, not being up to shipping standard. Other growers in New Providence were indifferent to the opportunity to realize on this 'canning stuff' and allowed it to go to waste.

"Tomatoes exported during the season to 31st March, 1922, 69,869 crates, valued at about £35,000. This is a slight decrease in number of crates, but the net yield to the grower is considerably more than that of last year.

"The crop of winter vegetables, with the exception of cabbages, was about the average, and prices obtained in the local market were exceptionally high. There was a heavy local demand, doubtless created and sustained by the successful tourist season, and although the crop was fairly large, the supply was below demand.

"To encourage the cultivation of vegetables in Nassau the Board offered a number of prizes for vegetable plots, and in January a Committee of the Board examined the plots entered and awarded the prizes.

"The nearby settlements on the Out Islands found ready sale for the produce they brought to market. One man at Spanish Wells sold £60 worth of paw-paw alone.

"Bananas, oranges, grapefruit, melons, and potatoes sold in local markets at what many considered exorbitant prices. This, surely, should encourage the growers and lead to increased production.

“The Board was fortunate in securing onion seed from Teneriffe at the right time this year. It was quickly distributed, and it is reported that a good crop will be marketed. At the time of writing, shipments are coming in from the Out Islands and are selling at 5d. per lb. This high price cannot continue when the full crop is on the market, but when 2d. a lb. is considered a remunerative price for onions, some idea can be obtained of the value of this crop to those engaged in its cultivation.”

Citrus.—“For some time past the Board has been giving its attention to the citrus groves in the Eleuthera district infected with the ‘Black Fly,’ the Secretary has made several visits to the district, taking with him insecticides and spray pumps and given instructions in the use of the same.

“Just a few weeks ago the Chairman of the Board made a visit of inspection, and it was found that those who had profited by the previous visits of the Secretary and had continued the use of the remedy supplied by the Board were now in possession of very healthy trees very nearly free from any pest, on the other hand the careless and indifferent owners had allowed their trees gradually to die. From the report submitted by the Chairman the Board is satisfied that the remedy supplied by the Board is sufficiently effective to keep the ‘Black Fly’ under control, and has decided to enforce the provisions of the Plants Protection Act, 1916. Notice has been served on the delinquents that after 1st June, 1922, the Board will destroy all neglected trees in the district as a protection to those who have their trees in hand and are co-operating with the Board in an effort to save the only remaining citrus trees in the Colony.

“The Board has recently received a few nests of ants (*Dugali Campbelli*) from Jamaica and has placed them in a few remaining trees in New Providence. The fungi received from the same source has been distributed at the Current.

“The Board is pleased to report that there are signs that the ‘Black Fly’ is weakening in New Providence, and that here and there are to be found young trees entirely free from it.

“We are of opinion that very soon it will be safe again to plant citrus trees, and have made plans to have a supply of seedlings on hand for planting next year.”

Sisal.—“Until a month ago there has been no foreign demand for sisal, and no shipments were made until March. Since then shipments have been going forward and the local price at the time of writing is 15s. per 100 lbs. It went as low as 6s. during the year with only one buyer in the market.”

Bees.—“From the four hives of Italian bees imported by the Board two years ago we now have ten apiaries in the Colony, distributed as follows :—

New Providence, 5 ; Exuma, 2 ; Long Island, 1 ; Eleuthera, 1 ; Spanish Wells, 1.

" Many of the Out Islanders are getting interested, and it is hoped that very soon we shall have the honey bee well established all over the Colony. As yet the supply of honey does not exceed the local demand, but there is a very good prospect of building up a very profitable industry and adding to our list of exports."

Stock.—" The Board has continued its efforts to improve the quality of the stock of the Colony, and is pleased to report that already there is abundant evidence that these efforts are yielding results.

" The progeny of the Berkshire and Jersey Duroc pigs imported by the Board are now fairly distributed over the Colony. From the boar placed at the Nassau Prison over 300 pigs have been distributed, and even the casual observer cannot visit the market without noticing the marked improvement in the pigs now offered for sale.

" The Southdown-Shropshire rams imported have done equally well, and now it is not uncommon for a sheep from this stock to sell in local market for from £4 to £5."

Poultry.—" During the year the Board has imported Rhode Island Reds and distributed them in New Providence, Eleuthera, Harbour Island, Spanish Wells, Exuma, Long Island, Cat Island, and Acklins, and from the reports recently received from the Commissioners and other individuals to whom the ' Reds ' were sent, we are encouraged to believe that the poultry offered for sale will shortly show the efforts of this introduction of new blood, for the conditions on which these fowls were placed was that the eggs should be used exclusively for hatching purposes.

" Two toms and six hen turkeys were imported and placed at Exuma, the island which, for some reason, appears to be specially adapted to the breeding of turkeys."

Seeds.—" The Board has kept on hand for sale at cost and free distribution a full supply of vegetable seed of every variety, and the demand this year has been above the average."

FISHERIES.

The following are extracts from the Report of the Marine Products Board :—

" The instability of Continental Exchange and the shortage of money were disabilities that the industry was called upon to face this year. Offerings on the Exchange grew smaller and smaller, insomuch that in December, which is always the congested season, there were days when the Exchange was idle owing to there being no sponge to sell.

" This shortage was reflected on the returns, which were £10,156 1s. 5d., the lowest figures ever recorded for that month.

"The year's aggregate, £83,092 6s. 9d., was also significant of the prevailing unsatisfactory conditions, as it is lower than any year, with one exception (1914), for the past decade.

"While deprecating these unhappy incidents, yet the Board maintains that it was not altogether unforeseen. The forecast for this year's business, as may be read in the report for 1920, is '*The Board is unable to hold out hopes of a profitable Spring market.*' That this decline was to grow worse and continue throughout the year, no human experience or skill could have foreseen.

"Again we are unable to predict a revival in the coming Spring. Prices will be steadier, but the demand will be particular and the general market must suffer. When exchange recovers and money is easier, even the loss of vessels may be remedied in part by longer voyages and better qualities, but as long as the money markets are depressed the high tides of the last decade will never be equalled.

"Another feature was a shortage of velvet, an unusual occurrence in the fishery and one which there is no reasonable solution, save the shortage in vessels already noted, though the Board is not in a position to make a definite statement as to the cause; but if it continues, it will form the subject of research in the coming year.

"While not looking forward to great things, the Board assures the Government that there is no room for pessimism whatever. Sponge is, and will continue to be, our most vital product when exogenous sources of revenue will have disappeared as quickly and as phenomenally as they came.

"In support of this assertion we take the liberty of quoting from the Report of the Washington Commissions of Fisheries. 'The fishery has not escaped the fluctuations in value and general depression felt in other industries. The radical changes in price throughout the year with considerable quantities of sponge remaining unsold . . . have not tended to simplify the financing operations, but . . . the future may be viewed without concern.'

"*Closures.*—The only area under closure at present is the Acklins Bight, which is due to be opened in August. Other closures are, however, necessary, and if the Board is renewed, the sponge fields will receive attention.

"*Culture.*—Since the Board began experimenting in sponge culture, there has been a general activity in that work in all marine departments where sponge is controlled. The Washington Bureau of Fisheries, besides experimenting in Floridian waters, is endeavouring to cultivate sponge on the Pacific coast, and to that end are sending sponge sets across the continent, though they have not yet made any progress, as while the sponge cutting keeps alive it does not develop. In Turkish waters there is also an attempt to grow the very valuable Mandrouka sponge.

" In an interesting monograph on sponge compiled by E. J. Cresswell, Esq., of the firm of Cresswell and Company, international sponge dealers, there are many references to the new industry, some of which are apposite here.

' State and federal laws should be enacted for encouraging sponge culture in both territorial and extra territorial waters. . . . In case of further depletion of the natural beds, or with the growth of demand and the failure to discover new or more productive grounds, sponge culture offers the only possible means of prevention of a practical sponge famine.' Chap. XV., p. 94.

" Wool sponges from the Ferry Farm, which have been allowed to grow unmolested, have been gathered and sold in the Exchange ; they were much admired for their uniformity and texture, and sold for 2s. each. It is certainly advisable to utilise this field more largely than hitherto and the Board intends, should funds be provided, planting 10,000 sets on this farm and vicinity, using as many of the Moss Town wool as possible. The waters of Watlings will also be sowed with as many more, if practicable, and the fine reef of Deadman's Cay will be increased by artificial culture. The carrying on of these enterprises will require an additional vote of £800 for the use of the Board.

" A report has been submitted on the planting of 30,000 discs in the Bight of Acklins, which was very successfully accomplished in spite of the disadvantage under which the contractor worked, as the perusal of the report will show. Specimens of plants have been received, and were found in excellent health and seemed to be progressing favourably.

" During the recent visit to the Bêche-de-Mer curing plants, the Secretary had an opportunity of visiting Hawksbill Cay, where Mr. Crawshay, the biologist from England, is engaged in experimental work in sponge growing. Mr. Crawshay courteously showed the cuttings that he had planted, and also the buildings which are intended for temperamental experiments. It will be some time before the experiments will be of practical value, but there can be no doubt that they will prove intensely interesting to the sponge cultivator when they shall have been thoroughly completed."

TURTLE SHELL.

" That there has been a recovery from last year's depression cannot be denied, as shell sold at extremely high prices, but that the industry is normal is very doubtful. The London market has not justified the rise in price here and dealers have suffered. While the market reports promise good demand and competition, yet there seems to be a decided falling off in prices, which cannot very well be accounted for. Turtle shell, however, will continue

to be on demand, and the coming year may prove highly satisfactory. The quantity brought to market was not affected by the loss of vessels as the shipments were quite as heavy as in the preceding year."

SHARKS' SKINS.

"The Ocean Leather Company has been purchasing steadily and there is a large number ready for shipment. A sample of the tanned skin has been submitted by Dr. Dolly, the chemist, who is connected with the company, and it proved to be a very valuable and useful product. The leather is equal in consistency and resiliency to the best cowskin leather and possesses some qualities of which other leathers are destitute.

"All types of sharks furnish valuable leather, and the grain of this tough product makes it prized for upholstering, bag and trunk covering, brief or barristers' cases, bill fold, novelties, and so forth. Scientists for many years have studied how to remove the horny substance called shagreen from sharks' hides. To-day his secret processes remove the objectionable matters from aquatic hides economically and with despatch. While practically every kind of sea leather is manufactured, shark leather is specialised on in an extract from 'Leather from the Deep,' by L. W. Pedruse.

"The Board has had no opportunity of inspecting the work of the company, as there is no central station for the catching of sharks and for curing their skins; when one is established, the Board will at once take steps to furnish the Government with all necessary information concerning the interesting export."

BÊCHE-DE-MER.

"As a set-off to the unfavourable aspect of the sponge trade, the Board is proud to point to the increasing export in this edible holothurian. As is very well known, many attempts have been made to open our Bêche-de-Mer fisheries to the world, but hitherto all efforts have been spasmodic and barren. The Board, however, was not satisfied that the fishery could not be exploited, and the result of their labours, as detailed in the report for the preceding year, has been very gratifying. Twice as much Bêche-de-Mer was shipped this year as was shipped in 1920, and the coming year promises an even greater output. Two curing stations are at work on Abaco, and a third is soon to be started.

"The Board is much in favour of local enterprise entering this field. Merchants desirous of dealing in this product should correspond with Messrs. Loxley and Company, of Hongkong, China. Still more important, however, than the Chinese market, are the many opportunities for sale of Bêche-de-Mer in the United States, where thousands of Chinese restaurants and sea food eating houses would be glad to get their supplies from the Bahamas,

BAHAMAS, 1921-22.

thus saving the heavy overland charges from San Francisco from which sources these saloons are supplied. That business is awaiting any enterprising merchant there is quite assured."

OTHER MARINE PRODUCTS.

"The condition of the major industries already mentioned is little to be said about the minor. They have all declined and are not likely to recover until the others are improved. Pearls are not likely to have come to an end as a commodity as there is still an interest in them whatever. Conch shells are but in slight demand. The trade in sea products is one that, while it is subject to fluctuations and severe reverses, yet will eventually recover and return to normal condition. Unlike the products of the land, sea products are automatic and require no cultivation but a reasonable amount of protection and selection, and this the Board, if provided with the necessary power, will continue to do in the future and has endeavoured to do in the past."

MANUFACTURES.

Pineapple Canning Factories.—The export of tinned pineapples during the last five years:—

1917	38,807	cases, valued at	£14,320
1918	22,315	" " "	£7,450
1919	18,604	" " "	£7,580
1920	11,050	" " "	£7,900
1921	3,476	" " "	£1,300

Lumber.—The Bahamas Cuban Company at Port Antonio exported 5,340,000 ft. of pine.

Salt.—The exports amounted to 126,000 bushels valued at £3,003.

LANDS AND FORESTS.

There were 47 Grants of Crown land made during 1921, the area being 180 acres. Approximately 372,384 acres of land in the Colony have been granted to private persons and 242,615 acres remain in the Crown.

It is not the policy of the Crown at present to sell land, except in the case of lots required for building or other special purposes as may be approved by the Board. The Board, but leases will be granted by arrangement on reasonable terms.

On the island of New Providence there is an area of about seven square miles covered with pine forest, and the Crown is prepared to consider a concession to cut and manufacture these trees into lumber.

The islands of Abaco, Grand Bahama, and Andros are extensive areas covered with pine forest, but the Crown has already been granted a period to an American Company.

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The islands of Abaco, Grand Bahama, and Andros also have extensive areas covered with pine forest, but the right to cut and manufacture these trees has already been granted for a long period to an American Company.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Acts were added to the Statute Book.

Provision was made for dredging and deepening of the bar at the entrance of the harbour of Nassau, and for providing a channel and basin within the harbour.

An Act to facilitate the enforcement in the Colony of Maintenance Orders made in the United Kingdom and *vice versa* was passed.

Imperial preference in matters of duties of Customs was provided for.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The teaching staff employed by the Board of Education consisted of 50 principal teachers, 4 assistant teachers, 6 pupil teachers, 183 monitors, 7 sewing teachers, 4 students in training, and 33 employed in aided schools.

The total numbers receiving primary education are given in the following table :—

	1920			1921		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Board Schools ..	3,893	3,689	7,582	3,964	3,661	7,625
Aided Private Schools	1,058	1,030	2,088	1,295	1,281	2,576
Church of England ..	542	560	1,102	483	570	1,053
Roman Catholic ..	159	256	415	219	309	528
Baptist ..	32	23	55	57	30	87
Private Schools ..	33	47	80	8	21	29
Total ..	5,717	5,605	11,322	6,026	5,872	11,898

Primary education is compulsory between the ages of six and fourteen years, is provided by the Government, and is controlled by a Board of Education consisting of twelve members appointed annually by the Governor. The Board receives an annual grant from the Legislature of £6,000, out of which school-houses, teachers' residences, etc., have to be provided and kept in repair, as well as the payment of teachers' salaries and general expenses. In addition to the annual grant, the Board received from the Treasury, for the augmentation of teachers' salaries and the defraying of other expenses, the sum of £6,500 during the year under review. The cost is greatly enhanced by the breaking up of the population into many small settlements, long distances apart, on the various islands, themselves separated many miles. The average cost for each child on the rolls, inclusive of special grants for repairs and new buildings, is £1 7s. 7d., and for each child in average attendance £2 6s. 5d.

There is still no State provision for secondary education, but private organisations connected with religious bodies provided higher instruction as follows :—

Name of School.	No. of Boys.	No. of Girls.	Total.
Queen's College and Preparatory School (Wesleyan)	71	69	140
Nassau Grammar School (Church of England) ..	16	—	16
St. Hilda's High School (Church of England) ..	12	39	51
St. Francis Xavier's Academy (Roman Catholic)	14	30	44
Total ..	113	138	251

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITAL.

The Bahamas General Hospital (originally established in 1809 as a poor-house) comprises the hospital proper, infirmary, dispensary, lunatic asylum, and leper wards.

The number of inmates on the 1st January, 1921, was :—

Alexandra Hospital	..	36 males,	25 females.
Victoria Jubilee Infirmary	18	„	„
Lunatic Asylum	.. ..	22	„ 20
Leper Wards	.. ..	2	„ 3
Totals	..	78 males.	66 females.

During the year 1921 there were 749 admissions, making a total under treatment of 993, of whom 376 were discharged recovered, 172 relieved, 15 unchanged, and 169 died.

The institution is managed by a Board appointed annually by the Governor.

SAVINGS BANK.

During the year ended 30th June, 1921, 5,112 deposits amounting to £20,730, and 3,659 withdrawals amounting to £14,359 were made, an excess of £6,371 over withdrawals.

The number of depositors on the 30th June, 1921, was 3,278, including 579 dead and unclaimed accounts.

The total liabilities amounted to £39,999, assets to £46,675, and an estimated surplus of £2,242 based on the investments at their approximate value.

The restriction limiting an account to £40 a year until it reached £200 has been removed by the repeal of section 53 of the Post Office Act, 1914.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The births in 1921 numbered 2,142, as against 1,930 in 1920. The deaths were 1,151, as against 1,213 in 1920. The birth-rate was 38·2, and the death-rate 20·5.

The estimated population on 1st January, 1921, was ..	55,352
Births, 1921	2,142
Deaths, 1921	1,151
Add excess of births	991
	56,343
Emigrants exceeded immigrants by	192
Estimated population on 1st January, 1922	56,151

The Public Health of the Colony was not so good as in 1920. Typhoid was more prevalent than usual and there was a very persistent and prolonged epidemic of Dengue fever, which appears to have been fairly common all over Florida.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS.

The following are the meteorological data for the past three years :—

Year	Temperature		Means of			Extremes of		Rainfall inches.
	7.30 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	
1919 ..	°F. 77·2	°F. 78·2	°F. 77·7	°F. 81·4	°F. 72·4	°F. 85·6	°F. 60·0	46·53
1920 ..	°F. 76·5	°F. 78·0	°F. 77·3	°F. 82·6	°F. 71·8	°F. 90·5	°F. 60·2	38·96
1921 ..	°F. 77·5	°F. 78·7	°F. 78·1	°F. 83·0	°F. 73·2	°F. 91·0	°F. 62·3	46·83

VII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPHS.

POSTAL.

The postal revenue for 1920-22 was £6,408, as against £8,810 in the previous year.

A large decrease is shown in the sales of stamps, for the reason that very few orders were received from dealers and collectors, who until recently were large purchasers. The revenue now earned is obtained from permanent sources, and may therefore be regarded as normal.

The total cost of the postal administration, including foreign and interinsular mail services, amounted to £23,612, being an increase of £8,157 over the previous year.

Mail subsidies have taken a flight, and are now costing the Colony about £35,000 annually.

BAHAMAS, 1921-22.

TELEGRAPHS.

In volume of traffic and revenue derived therefrom a new high record.

The revenue was £5,837 8s. 5d., with expenditure £2,511 5s. 2d.

17,279 telegrams were received and despatched.

Radio telegraph stations were established on the Bimini and Inagua and on Harbour Island, all of which have given satisfactory results and proved of great benefit to the people of those islands.

TELEPHONES.

There are now 480 telephones on the system. The telephone equipment is being renewed and a considerable increase in the number of subscribers is expected to follow the completion of the work.

The revenue was £8,855 9s. 1d. (which included £6,000 for the purchase of equipment) and expenditure, £8,825 19s. 2d.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The revenue was £5,418 2s., and expenditure, £7,000. A new and more powerful electric plant, with machinery, is being installed. On completion the service will be extended to distances considerably greater than is now possible, and with consequent large increase in the number of subscribers to electricity.

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLONY.

I append extracts from the report of the Board :—

"In April the Board unanimously endorsed and passed the resolution of the Board passed on 20th August 1921, for the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the proposal of Major H. H. F. for the establishment of an air service between Nassau and Miami, and also recommended, for the favourable consideration of the Governor in Council, some increase in the rate of the air service granted for the encouragement of air traffic between this port and Florida. While commencing the service, it is to be regretted that the scheme for the establishment of the air service was not far materialized.

"In May the Board voted the sum of £300 for their disposal to assist the Bahamas Home Industries Commission in establishing a lace-making industry in the Colony.

TELEGRAPHS.

In volume of traffic and revenue derived therefrom the department established a new high record.

The revenue was £5,837 8s. 5d., with expenditure of £2,511 5s. 2d.

17,279 telegrams were received and despatched.

Radio telegraph stations were established on the islands of Bimini and Inagua and on Harbour Island, all of which gave very satisfactory results and proved of great benefit to the residents of those islands.

TELEPHONES.

There are now 480 telephones on the system. The entire telephone equipment is being renewed and a considerable increase in the number of subscribers is expected to follow completion of the work.

The revenue was £8,855 9s. 1d. (which included £6,000 Loan) and expenditure, £8,825 19s. 2d

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The revenue was £5,418 2s., and expenditure, £7,118 10s. 4d.

A new and more powerful electric plant, with ice-making machinery, is being installed. On completion the service is to be extended to distances considerably greater than is now supplied and with consequent large increase in the number of users of electricity.

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLONY.

I append extracts from the report of the Development Board :—

“ In April the Board unanimously endorsed and confirmed the resolution of the Board passed on 20th August, 1921, submitting, for the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the proposal of Major H. H. Kitchener for the establishment of an air service between Nassau and Miami, and also recommended, for the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, some increase in the subsidy subsequently granted for the encouragement of a British Air Service between this port and Miami. While communication by air between Nassau and Florida is now a matter of frequent occurrence, it is to be regretted that the scheme for which a subsidy was granted by the Legislature for a British company has not so far materialized.

“ In May the Board voted the sum of £300 from the funds at their disposal to assist the Bahamas Home Industries Association in establishing a lace-making industry in the Colony.

“ In addition to the original folder issued by the Board, which had been greatly improved in many respects, especially by the inclusion of a map of the Island of New Providence, and one of the City of Nassau, and of which about 2,000 copies were put into circulation during the year, the Board purchased 1,000 copies of another attractive booklet entitled, ‘ The Isles of June,’ published by the Russel M. Seeds Company, of Indianapolis. Both folders were successful and were in great demand by tourists and others.

“ One hundred large blue prints of the map of the city were also procured, many of which were distributed locally. A further supply of the pamphlet containing information about hotels, private houses for rent, and boarding and lodging houses in the city has been ordered. This pamphlet has been found to be very useful and is in great demand.

“ As there had been many inquiries for the pamphlet issued by the Board entitled, ‘ Information as to Soil, Climate, etc., for Intending Settlers,’ which was out of print, the Board also decided to have that pamphlet revised and reprinted. The question of publishing a new edition of ‘ Sketches of Summerland,’ one of the best books on the Colony which has yet appeared, was also taken up with the publishers, the *Nassau Guardian*.

“ In view of the fact that up to June, 1921, no definite progress seemed to have been made in the highly important matter of arranging for regular steamship service with New York for the coming winter season, the Board at a meeting held on June 9th, after careful consideration of the whole question and in view of the importance of the interests involved, decided to send a representative of the Board to New York with the intention of negotiating a contract for such a service. Mr. R. H. Curry, M.H.A., at the request of the Board, proceeded to New York for the purpose, and on his return in December was enabled to report to the Board that he had been successful in his mission, and had negotiated a contract with the Munson S.S. Line, which was subsequently adopted by the Government. The Board were much gratified at the successful outcome of Mr. Curry’s efforts, which provided the Colony with a first-class regular and frequent mail, passenger and freight steamship service with New York, and feel that they, and the Colony generally, are indebted to Mr. Curry for the energy and perseverance with which he carried his mission to a successful conclusion.

“ In July, the Board, in conjunction with the Public Board of Works, undertook the work of the improvement of the borders of the country roads in New Providence. The Board regard the results obtained up to the present, especially on West Bay Street, as eminently satisfactory, and they hope to continue this policy until all the country roads have been similarly beautified and improved.

“ The Board, in July, approached the President of the Toronto Exhibition with a view to having the Colony represented at the Annual Exhibition in the autumn, but were unable to carry out

their intention, as no one could be procured to superintend the exhibit. Among other subjects discussed by the Board, but on which, for a variety of reasons, no action was found to be practicable, were the acquisition of a piece of land on the west sea front for a public bathing beach, the erection of a telephone line to the landing at South-West Bay, and the refutation of allegations regarded as detrimental to the interests of the Colony, which had originally appeared in a New York newspaper.

"In August, the Board, ordered a reel of motion pictures entitled, 'Sponging for a Living,' which had been taken on 'The Mud' by a representative of the Ford Motor Car Company. An effort made to have this shown at the Toronto Exhibition was unsuccessful, but the film will be available for exhibition locally when the opportunity offers.

"At the request of the Board the Editor of the *Toronto Sunday World* published one of the articles on Nassau for which a prize had been awarded last year, and one was also sent to the Canadian Pacific R.R. Company. That company was also approached by the Board with a view to obtaining their co-operation in procuring good motion pictures of Nassau, to be released through the Associated Screen News in Canada and the United States.

"During the year the Raymond and Whitcomb Company, of Boston and New York, were again appointed agents of the Board, and the contract with the Foster Travel Information Service ('Ask Mr. Foster') was also renewed. Mr. Reese, of the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, was again appointed one of the Board's representatives in New York, and Messrs. Albury and Freeman were appointed the Board's agents in Miami, Florida. The West India Committee have also kindly consented to continue to act in the same capacity in London. A large supply of the Board's literature advertising the Colony as a winter resort was sent to all of these representatives, and the fact that the demand for this class of advertising matter is continually increasing abroad is regarded by the Board as being of good omen for the future of the tourist interests of the Colony. Six selected large coloured photographs of Nassau, by Mr. Fred Armbrister, were also sent to Miami for advertising purposes, being exhibited first in the offices of Messrs. Albury and Freeman, and afterwards in the 'Ask Mr. Foster' Bureau of Information.

"The road in front of the Rest House at the landing at South-West Bay has been improved, and the present wharf is being extended 100 feet in length, and an additional 50 feet is being run at right angles from the end of the wharf in a westerly direction. It is hoped that these extensions, which take the wharf out into deeper water and provide protection against surge, will greatly facilitate the landing of passengers at that spot. A communication was sent to the Public Board of Works inviting that Board to take over control of the Rest House recently erected by the Board at the same place.

“Recognizing the imperative necessity of extending the Board’s programme of advertising for the season of 1922, the Board, in January, invited the Legislature to grant them an additional sum of £2,000 for that purpose. This was readily done, and the Board was consequently enabled greatly to increase expenditure in this respect. The sum of \$10,000 was placed at the joint disposal of the Raymond and Whitcomb Company, the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, and the Munson S.S. Line, for advertising extensively in some fifteen widely read newspapers and a number of popular magazines; advertisements were inserted over a period of eight weeks in two Miami newspapers, and over a period of three months through the ‘Where-to-go’ Bureau; the local weather report was telegraphed daily to one of the Board’s representatives in New York for publication in the *New York Herald*; the services of a press representative at the Hotel Colonial were engaged, who furnished regular reports which appeared in the social columns of various newspapers, and other means were employed to induce tourists to visit Nassau.

“The result of these measures became manifest in February, when Nassau contained more visitors than ever before in its history as a winter resort. The Hotels Colonial and Royal Victoria were both filled to capacity, and a number of visitors who were unable to obtain accommodations there were referred by the manager to the Board, through the agency of which their wants in that respect were supplied elsewhere. The lesson to be drawn is obvious, and if Nassau is to attain and maintain that prominent position as a winter resort in this part of the world, to which its climate and other advantages and attractions entitle it, a continuous and extensive advertising programme will have to be carried on during an initial period of, say, five years.

“The destruction by fire of the Hotel Colonial on the last day of March, at practically the end of a successful season, is greatly to be regretted and will undoubtedly prove to be a severe setback to the future of the tourist interests of the Colony, as the fame of that hostelry had spread far and wide and it was the centre of most of the season’s gaieties. Before its loss the necessity of providing additional accommodation for winter visitors had become evident, as the then existing accommodation had proved to be insufficient; and the provision of further hotels was one of the problems with which the Board had resolved to deal during the next financial year.

“The early replacement of accommodations at least equal to those provided by the Hotel Colonial is a matter of imperative necessity if the position already achieved is to be maintained, and the success of the season just ended has also clearly indicated the advisability of taking immediate steps to ensure the provision as soon as possible of other first-class accommodation for winter visitors to the Colony.”

THE OUT ISLANDS.

The following is a brief résumé of the reports of the Out Island Commissioners :—

Abaco (Green Turtle Cay).—The estimated value of Imports was £22,000.

The following are particulars of the principal exports of native products :—

Cane Syrup, value	..	..	..	..	£	250
Sisal	..	..	..	..	..	300
Sponges	..	..	..	..	..	1,500
Timber	..	..	..	..	..	44,994

Forty vessels cleared outwards with cargoes for foreign ports. Wages paid at the timber works amounted to £20,000.

Abaco (Hope Town).—The sponge industry was not carried on to such an extent as formerly.

About 4,000 gallons of cane syrup were manufactured.

A large three-masted schooner was built and launched.

The inhabitants are preparing to develop a tomato trade direct with the United States as soon as the proposed wireless telegraph station has been established.

The fleet of fishing smacks owned at Cherokee Sound Village earned more money than in any previous year.

Andros.—Sponging continued to be the mainstay of the island, but prices were lower than usual.

The people are turning their attention to agriculture. There is a considerable quantity of land under coco-nuts, and the yield was satisfactory.

Biminis.—The tourist season proved a failure owing principally to lack of shipping facilities.

The air service was good. Eighty-three planes arrived bringing between 300 and 400 persons.

Eleuthera.—The pineapple industry continues to decline. Tomato cultivation has considerably increased, but owing principally to dry weather the crop was small.

Exuma.—Agricultural returns were good and exports of stock were the largest on record. Large quantities of poultry and eggs were shipped to Nassau.

Grand Bahama.—Agriculture was in a poor condition. Cultivations were destroyed by a hurricane in the month of November.

Sponging is now the principal industry.

Harbour Island.—The trade of the district was good. The local schooners again made profitable voyages.

Shipbuilding gave steady employment throughout the year. A four-masted schooner of 600 tons was launched.

Large quantities of fruit and vegetables were sold at Nassau.

A Radio-telegraph station was installed and opened for use on 21st October.

Inagua.—In the early part of the year agriculturists did remarkably well, but during the latter half the reverse conditions obtained, owing to drought.

The quantity of salt raked was 101,000 bushels, valued at £1,262. Almost all of the salt produced was shipped to New York and Jamaica.

A Radio-telegraph station was opened for use on 6th December.

The salt industry offers large possibilities, but local business men are unable to furnish the necessary capital for its successful working.

Long Cay.—Food crops were scanty, owing to drought. The price of sisal being low, very little was exported.

Coco-nut groves were in a thriving condition, and the demand for nuts exceeded the supply.

Long Island.—Considerable attention was given to Agriculture during the year, but owing to drought the results were disappointing. Plantains and bananas, however, were not affected, and large quantities were exported. This island is now one of the principal stock-producing districts of the Colony. Considerable numbers of cattle and sheep were shipped to Nassau.

Ragged Island.—Agriculture, hitherto neglected, is now being vigorously pursued. Salt-raking is the principal industry of the island.

Rum Cay.—The cultivation of food crops was extended.

The people are making efforts to revive the salt industry of the island.

San Salvador (Arthur's Town).—The principal exports were :—

Sisal	226,400 lb.
Bark	13,850 lb.

The cultivation of sugar-cane commanded attention, and a considerable quantity of syrup was manufactured.

San Salvador (The Bight).—Food crops were plentiful. Owing to the low price of sisal, large quantities of fibre were stored in the district in anticipation of a rise in value. The decline in the sisal market was the cause of considerable emigration to Florida.

Wallings.—The production of sisal was large, but the decline in the value of fibre has had a depressing effect upon the people, and emigration continues. The corn crop was good.

There was an increase in the export of live stock.

P. W. D. ARMBRISTER,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Nassau, Bahamas.

25th October, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.							
No.	Colony, etc.						Year.
1109	British Guiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1110	British Honduras ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1111	Malta ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1112	Uganda ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1113	Leeward Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1114	Nigeria ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1115	Mauritius ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1116	Jamaica ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1117	Cyprus ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1118	Weihaiwei ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1119	Gold Coast ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1120	Gambia ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1121	Gambia ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1123	British Guiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1124	Grenada ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1125	Zanzibar ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1127	Gibraltar ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1128	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1129	St. Helena ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1130	Fiji ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1131	Basutoland ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921-1922
1132	Bermuda ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921-1922
1134	Barbados ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1135	Trinidad and Tobago ..	..	..	..	..	..	1921
1136	British Honduras ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1137	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1138	Swaziland ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1139	Hongkong ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1140	Straits Settlements ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1141	St. Lucia ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1142	Ashanti ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1143	Jamaica ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1144	Falkland Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies ..	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute ..	..	..	..	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate ..	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General ..	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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